



The VOLUNTEER FOR LIBERTY

Organ of the international brigades

Vol. II - No. 6

Barcelona, February 23 - 1938

Anglo-American Section of Anti-Fascist Club Formed in Barcelona

An English-speaking section of the International Antifascist Club of Barcelona was formed recently by a group of British and American comrades who are in the city. The idea was conceived as a result of a spontaneous gathering of a number of comrades at the Club one evening. These English-speaking comrades, heretofore not well acquainted with the Club, discovered that almost every major language group was represented in it except English.

This same group met a few days later and elected a Provisional Committee of four whose function was to contact the Secretariat of the Club, make arrangements for the incorporation of the English-speaking, and to inform other comrades not present of the next meeting. Moreover, all those at-

tendant agreed to pass the word on to their acquaintances.

Consequently, more than 30



comrades turned up at the meeting held on Sunday night, February 20. Comrade Alonso Elliott, speaking for the Provisional Committee, reported. In explaining the aims of the International Antifascist Club, he said the club existed to provide the various antifascist nationalities with a place where they can come for political or social purposes. He said the club accepted in its ranks only those who were decided antifascists and were contributing in some way toward the winning of the war for the Loyalist Government.

Elliott explained that the facilities at the disposal of the members included a library, billiard room, ping-pong room, bar, an auditorium, class rooms for study or meeting, radio, chess, checkers, and other features.

After the application blanks for membership were filled and handed in the body elected an Executive Committee of five to carry on



THE HOME of the International Antifascist Club, where our comrades get together for cultural and recreational activities.

Number of Planes Brought Down in 1937

The Ministry of National Defence has made public the following figures giving the results of air battles during 1937:

GOVERNMENT PLANES BROUGHT DOWN BY THE REBELS

January: 3 bombers, 1 pursuit plane, 1 observation plane; total, 5.
February: 2 bombers, 3 pursuit planes; total, 5.
March: 2 bombers, 3 pursuit planes; total, 5.
April: 4 pursuit planes; total, 4.
May: 2 bombers, 6 pursuit planes; total, 8.
June: 3 bombers, 5 pursuit planes, 2 seaplanes; total, 10.
July: 7 bombers, 12 pursuit planes, 1 seaplane; total, 20.
August: 4 bombers, 6 pursuit planes; total, 20.
September: 3 bombers, 6 pursuit planes; total, 9.
October: 3 bombers, 1 pursuit plane; total, 4.
November: 3 pursuit planes; total, 3.
December: 3 bombers, 6 pursuit planes; total, 9.
Total number of Republican planes lost, 92.

REBEL PLANES BROUGHT DOWN BY THE GOVERNMENT AIR FORCE

January: 3 Junkers bombers, 13 Fiat pursuit planes, 3 Heinkel pursuit planes, 5 planes of unknown type; total, 24.
February: 4 Junkers bombers, 11 Heinkels, 6 planes of unknown type; total, 21.
March: 1 Fokker bomber, 1 Junkers bomber, 14 Fiat pursuit planes, 2 Heinkels; total, 18.
April: 2 Junkers bombers, 5 Heinkels, 5 sea-planes, 8 Fiat pursuit planes; total, 20.
May: 4 Fiat pursuit planes, 2 planes of unknown type; total, 6.
June: 36 Fiat pursuit planes, 1 Junkers bombers 2 planes of unknown type; total, 39.
July: 9 Junkers bombers, 13 Heinkels, 5 observation planes, 3 planes of unknown type, 48 Fiat pursuit planes; total, 78.
August: 2 Junkers bombers, 1 twin-engined plane, 15 planes of unknown type, 12 Fiat pursuit planes; total, 30.
September: 3 Junkers bombers, 3 twin-engined planes, 3 Romeos, 15 Fiat pursuit planes; total, 24.
October: 2 Junkers bombers, 1 Savoia, 14 Fiat pursuit planes; total, 17.
November: None.
December: 4 Junkers bombers, 1 sea-plane, 1 Meisserschmidt, 10 Fiat pursuit planes; total, 16.
Total number of planes lost by the enemy, 293.

the work of English-speaking section. Two of the Executive Committee will represent the Section on the Executive of the International Antifascist Club itself. The Committee members as consisted at this time are: M. Lesser, A. Elliott, T. John, Kathleen Cresswell and Ned Golomb.

A motion was made and passed setting every Saturday night, 9 o'clock as the regular meeting time

for the English-speaking members to get together.

The Club is open to all members every day. It is located in the "Casa Degli Italiani", Pasaje Méndez Vigo, No. 8.



Aliado 12 de febrero de 1938

To the Commander of the 15th Brigade and to his Entire Estado Mayor

Spanish Comrades in 59th Battalion Express to Copic Their Confidence and Hope for Continued Action Within 15th International Brigade

Spanish officers and soldiers comprising the 59th (Spanish) Battalion of the 15th International Brigade have affirmed their hope that future actions will find them fighting, as in the past, as part of the International Brigade.

Their statement, reproduced in full on the adjoining page, together with all of their signatures, expresses their confidence in their Brigade Commander, Lieutenant-Colonel Copic, and in his entire staff. The statement follows in full:

«The officers and soldiers of the 59th Battalion, in observing the first anniversary of the Fifteenth Brigade's *Baptism of Fire*, celebrates and reaffirms its decision to realize all that is beneficial to the cause of the Republic. We are happy and proud that we are led by Commanders and officers as competent as those who comprise our Brigade Estado Mayor. These staff officers deserve the maximum confidence; and we hope that in future actions our Brigade Staff will perform as signally as they have until now. We feel it is an honor to belong to this Brigade, so outstandingly directed by our esteemed Commander, Comrade Copic, together with his staff headquarters.

«We also extend our heartfelt greetings to our equally esteemed comrade, General Walter.

«We reaffirm and emphasize, with all our hearts, that nothing is strong enough to sever our desire and will to belong to the International Brigades.»

V.A.A.A.A. Victoria

Charles Donnelly, Irish Revolutionary

A great mind was quenched when Charles Donnelly fell, a few yards from the fascist trenches, on February 27, 1937. Twenty-six years old, he had given up a University career in Dublin to throw himself into the working-class struggle. He was prominent in the unity movement in Ireland, and served a jail term for strike activity. Coming to Spain in December 1936, he was the first Political Commissar of the Irish Section of the Lincoln Battalion.

A revolutionary poet of promise, a keen student. (He left unfinished a biography of James Connolly in order to give his services to the Spanish people). His death is a challenge to those intellectuals who are still vainly attempting flight from the reali-

ties of a world yet to be won for freedom.

With him died at Jarama, intellectuals and workers whose loss is keenly felt in Ireland—Eamon McGrotty, University graduate; William Henry, Belfast Socialist; Liam Tumilson, Belfast Communist; Hugh Bonar, Tírcho-naill; I. R. A. veteran, and many others who realised that the struggle against fascism in Spain is an extension of the Irish struggle against Imperialism and for freedom. In their persons, Charles Donnelly and his comrades of the Irish unit represented—and revealed to us—the real Ireland, and in battle they upheld the proud traditions of their fighting race.



IN A WAR FACTORY

THE WOOL INDUSTRY

One of Catalonia's most important industries, well-known in Spain and abroad, is the wool industry. Soon after the war broke out this industry was practically paralysed because of the lack of raw material. This situation had been brought about by the fact that the «General Association of Livestock Owners», with headquarters in Madrid, which supplied most of the Catalan wool industries with wool, was dissolved as most of its members sympathised with the rebellion and, at the first opportunity, left Government Spain.

The enterprise which suffered most from the flight of the members of the «General Association of Livestock Owners» was that of the «Spanish Wool Producers», in Sabadell (Catalonia), the most important woolcleaning and combing factory in the whole of Spain. The «General Association of Livestock Owners» had supplied most of the raw material for the factory and had held shares in it as well. It was natural, therefore, that the level of production should fall rapidly.

An end was put to this situation when in August, 1936, the «Association of Livestock Owners» was confiscated by the Ministry of Agriculture, through the General Administration of Livestock. The «Association of Livestock Owners» was reorganised under the Ministry of Agriculture, which immediately began to buy the wool which had been stored up by the peasants and collective organisations for some time, since it had been impossible for them to put it on the market as a result of the flight of the members of the «General Association of Livestock Owners». During the 1936 season the General Administration of Livestock of the Ministry of Agriculture acquired the following amounts of wool in various places of loyal Spain:

<i>Province of Badajoz:</i>	
Cabeza de Buey....	321,931 kg.
Castuera.....	89,228 »
Villanueva de la	
Serena.....	26,381 »
Campanario.....	59,443 »
<i>Province of Cordova:</i>	
Belalcázar.....	30,567 »
Pedroches.....	4,473 »
Villanueva de Cor-	
doba.....	86,159 »
Pozoblanco.....	40,425 »
Alcaracejos.....	9,832 »
<i>Province of Ciudad Real:</i>	
Chillón.....	10,552 »
Almadén.....	8,705 »
<i>Provinces of Cuen-</i>	
<i>ca and Toledo....</i>	<i>76,440 »</i>
Total.....	746,116 fig.

The season was entirely successful. More wool was acquired by the General Administration of Livestock than had been acquired in previous seasons by the «General Association of Livestock Owners».

The wool obtained was immediately handed over to the «Spanish Wool Producers», an enterprise run by a Workers' Council composed of employees and workers of the «Association of Livestock Owners» in Madrid and Sabadell and a delegate of the Government, which is under the guidance of the General Administration of Livestock. Wool began to appear on the market at prices not much higher than those which existed before the war.

This season will probably be even more successful. In the first two months of 1938, 300,000 kilograms of wool have been obtained. It is expected that this year the figure will be over one million kilograms.

What has been the result of this intensive work of the Ministry of Agriculture. The ruin of one of the most important Catalan industries has been prevented. It will be able to continue production normally and even compete with foreign products in foreign markets.

SHIPMATES STILL

In december, 1936, two men crossing the English Channel to France got into conversation. After some talk of what they were going to do, they commenced to talk of what they had done and had been.

First they made the discovery that both were ex-Navy men. Then, after comparing notes, they discovered that many years previously they had actually served together on the same ship, H. M. S. Resolution.



The first seaman was Fred Copeman, now Commander of the 57th (British) Battalion. The other was Sam Wild, now Commander of the Major Attlee Company of the same Battalion. (While Copeman is in the hospital, following a serious operation, Wild has become Battalion Adjutant. — Editor).

ACTION TOGETHER

When Fred and Sam arrived at the training base, the first man they met was Tom Johnson, who had

also served with them on the "Resolution" as a marine. Tom is now Officer-in-charge of the 15th Brigade Armory.

The three shipmates went into action together at Jarama and, to quote Sam Wild, "We woke up together in the same hospital at Alicante".

The story of how these three fighters, once part of the Imperialist armed forces, found their separate paths to the cause of the people, makes interesting reading.

FRED COPEMAN

In 1931, Fred Copeman, serving on H. M. S. Norfolk, played a leading part in the Invergordon mutiny. Discharged from the Navy, he quickly became active in the working class movement, and became a prominent figure in the unemployed struggles. When the police banned meetings at the Labour Exchanges, Fred led the fight against the ban and went to prison four times.

SAM WILD

Sam was prevented from taking part in the Invergordon mutiny by being put in chokey the day the mutiny commenced. Years previously his shipmates had dubbed him "Moscow Wild".

Shortly after the mutiny, Sam went the way of all flesh via the

Dockyard Gate, with all pension rights forfeited. The Navy's loss was the Labour Movement's gain, for Sam found his way there.

TOM JOHNSON

Tom Johnson served his full period in the Navy and only got interested in politics when he entered the outside world and came face to face with the problems of his class — of which he is now a proud and capable servant.



Tom often bemoans the fact that it took him so long to "wake up".

All three shipmates assert their unbounded confidence in the class consciousness of their fellow Navy men. The role that these three grand fighters are playing today in Spain is an encouraging pointer to the attitude the British Navy is likely to take should a similar crisis arise in Britain.

Marty Greets Brigade on its anniversary

TO THE CHAIRMAN OF THE MEETING ORGANIZED BY THE STUDENTS OF LAGASCA INSTITUTE TO PAY HOMAGE TO THE 15TH INTERNATIONAL BRIGADE.

Esteemed Comrades:

My warmest greetings to the students and fighters meeting in this hall in their Act of Homage to the 15th International Brigade.

In spite of a great desire to be among you during these moments, I find it absolutely impossible to do so. But you can be assured of my enthusiastic adhesion in your Homage to one of our heroic International Brigades, a marvellous expression of the Anniversary of the 15th Brigade coincides with the memorable date in the history of the French peoples' fight for Bread, Peace and Liberty. The 12th of February, the French working class demonstrated that it could fight fascism through the medium of unity of action.

The Spanish people and the International Brigades will continue united in their struggle in the path designed by the fighters of the whole world.

Then, Forward to Victory!
Long Live the Spanish Popular Army!
Long Live the Republic!

ANDRE MARTY
Paris Deputy

Hagamos las más grandes economías en material, ropas y viveres. Toda economía realizada nos ayudará a elevar, a reforzar nuestro ejército, y a vencer rápidamente y definitivamente al fascismo

TWENTY

(Acknowledgements to dedicated in respectful comrades of February)

PROLOGUE

Twenty of us lie here —
Twenty who crossed continents,
— oceans, mountains,
Twenty to strike at the beast
Time for burial was lacking
— space and men too.
Now, through the life of this blood-red Earth, shall we comrades rest together
Comrades now in the last of all; the
The quiet cloak spread over the bed

I

Seven of us were British. From
Mighty Brittany's far-flung horde of
Imperialist booty we sought to erase
Our shame, our country's sin against
Fatal that day on the Jarama —
Fatal only to pail mortal flesh.

II

I was an actor from Boston.
Communist for six years, I tried to a
My share to mold the spirit of the m
No hypocritical « Pro Patria » adorns
Blinding lunge, a crash — and eternit

III

From New York, mighty-spined Gotha
To the rambling fields of Spain I spe
Statesman, politicians corrupt, shrie
But we came. Short was my mortal s
Than a winter's day. But eternally sh
Lie here — and eternally vigilant.

IV

History was in our hands, hard labor.
Hands, when we left — we five Irish.
We've made, bloody, fearful, glorious.
Proud of the traditions we bore, proud
We found the answer, too soon quiet
But we smile content from the tomb

V

Six Americans are we, bloody bulks n
Given to those shared our intimacy. s
From the mighty states — six who s
« Attack » went the word. And death
Medieval monsters of destruction ende
Yet gave us what we never knew — a

EPILOGUE

Soon shall reach the last roll of man
Soon the weary living tread the soft
But flowers, new and fresh add wet,
Death in too-familiar guise guards the
As do our comrades, with unseeing ey
And when the far-off tales are told, o
A thousand minds will flicker back to
Came the new dead. The climbing fles

OF US

Edgar Lee Masters. De-
memory of our fallen
y 27, 1937.)

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grey,
of life.

Innocents.

Id
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no common last bed
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it my quiet life
I Red —
lay, shorter
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roughened
History

of our faith, too soon
darkness.
our vengeance, « Pasaremos ».

ow, unrecognizable,
x of us
quick fates.
oon followed fast.
the short earthly stay —
permanent home.

made thunder.
sad back.
loom on one huge tomb.
horizon
es.
the brave and the quick and the dead,
Jarama, from which there soon
is gone, but only the flesh.

JOSEPH ROSENSTEIN

"Soy un soldado y no un charlatán, y ya he hablado demasiado"

La popularidad del ex-general Queipo, según un periodista hitleriano

Visitada España facciosa por buen número de periodistas fascistas y nazis, no podía faltar el editor jefe del *Hamburger Freidenblatt*, doctor Sven von Müller, y su presencia en Sevilla había de significarse con la obligada visita al jefe militar faccioso de Andalucía, el ex general Gonzalo Queipo de Llano.

En el citado diario de Hamburgo aparece, el 12 de febrero, la entrevista entre el mencionado periodista hitleriano y el cabecilla rebelde.

La información va precedida de una fotografía del ex general, donde una dedicatoria expresa la admiración de Queipo de Llano por el pueblo nazi.

La crónica del periodista alemán empieza diciendo que "cuando los andaluces hablan de su general, su entusiasmo se refiere a un compatriota que tiene tres grandes méritos".

Veamos cuáles son, según este escritor hitleriano, los tres grandes méritos de Queipo:

1.º "El rasgo de bravura por el cual cogió de improviso a los sevillanos." — ¿A qué llama Von Müller rasgo de bravura?... Reconocer la popularidad de Queipo, la popularidad entre las tertulias de señoritos holgazanes, puede ser en cierto modo popularidad. El pueblo de Sevilla, los millares de seres entusiasmados por la matanza de sus parientes y seres queridos "cuando el cabecilla los cogió de improviso", no serán quienes presten calor a esa popularidad. Es bastante sarcástica esta apreciación del periodista hamburgués, porque un verdugo no puede ser nunca legítimamente popular. Si acaso, puede ser tristemente célebre; que no es lo mismo.

2.º "La rapidez de las operaciones de Málaga." — Von Müller atribuye ese triunfo al ex general faccioso, y luego, en el mismo artículo — como más adelante destacamos —, habla, por boca del propio Queipo de Llano, de los doce batallones

italianos que tomaron parte en la toma de aquella ciudad.

3.º "En la cuestión del orden social... que es para él asunto de corazón." — Hemos citado, de paso, las matanzas que dirigió el general, en Sevilla, contra republicanos y obreros de tendencias izquierdistas. Insiste, el redactor-jefe del *Hamburger Freidenblatt*, en aceptar el crimen del ex general como uno de sus tres grandes méritos. Es un mérito especial y digno del aludido cabecilla. Así se comprende, con esta lógica de acepciones, que el periodista crea eminentemente popular al militar traidor.

HABÍA HABLADO DEMASIADO

"Yo pregunté al general —dice en su crónica el periodista de Hamburgo— por qué había cesado en sus discursos por la radio. Él declaró, sonriendo, que era un soldado y no un charlatán, y que había hablado ya demasiado."

Buena confesión. El propio *speaker* declara que había hablado demasiado. Esto fué lo que motivó en Burgos, cansados de soportar el ridículo efecto de sus deplorables conferencias nocturnas, el cese del ex general como charlista.

"Franco me ha ofrecido una cartera en su nuevo "ministerio" y

yo no he aceptado. Prefiero seguir como general en Andalucía."

Esto es: quiere seguir siendo el "amo de Andalucía".

"Quiero dedicarme a mis quehaceres como general" — termina diciendo el "alegre" fascista sevillano.

Quipo cuenta al periodista cómo cayó Málaga, y dice que preparó fuerzas españolas y "doce batallones italianos en siete columnas para la marcha concéntrica sobre Málaga".

El periodista transcribe fielmente esta declaración, que, por sí sola, es bastante elocuente. Sabido es que sobre las divisiones italianas el ex general —ni ningún militar fascioso— tiene competencia ni autoridad alguna; por lo que se deduce, sin que necesitemos que el repórter nazi lo detalle, que no fué el "héroe general" el conquistador de Málaga, cuando él mismo cita a las fuerzas italianas que realizaron la operación.

Puede felicitarse el cronista y redactor-jefe del *Hamburger Freidenblatt*: con todo lo que relata, no habrá quien dude de que Queipo es "eminentemente" popular, aunque no lo dejen hablar más por radio y Franco no le haya dado cartera alguna en su nuevo "gobierno".

Marty saluda la Brigada en su aniversario

A LA PRESIDENCIA DEL ACTO HOMENAJE A LA 15 BRIGADA INTERNACIONAL ORGANIZADA POR LOS ESTUDIANTES DEL INSTITUTO LAGASCA.

Estimados Camaradas:

Envío a los estudiantes y combatientes reunidos en esta sala, en el Acto de Homenaje a la 15 Brigada Internacional mi más caluroso saludo.

A pesar de mi gran deseo de encontrarme entre vosotros en estos momentos, me es absolutamente imposible de hacerlo. Pero podéis estar seguros de mi entusiasta adhesión a vuestro homenaje a una de nuestras heroicas Brigadas Internacionales expresión maravillosa de la Solidaridad Internacional y de la Unidad de Acción. La conmemoración del Aniversario de la 15 Brigada coincide con la fecha memorable en la historia del Pueblo francés por el pan, la paz y la libertad. El 12 de febrero la clase obrera francesa demostró que se puede batir al fascismo por medio de la unidad de acción.

El pueblo español y las Brigadas Internacionales firmemente unidos continuarán su lucha sobre el camino trazado por los combatientes del mundo entero.

Adelante, pues, hasta la victoria!
Viva el Ejército Popular español!
Viva la República!

ANDRE MARTY
Diputado de París

En nuestras Brigadas
Internacionales debe haber
el mayor porcentaje
de clases y oficiales
salidos de las filas de los
nuevos reclutas



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S. R. I. 555-E PLAZA ALTOZANO ALBACETE

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FEBRUARY 23 — 1938

LEARN SPANISH

American and British comrades, learn Spanish! Many have already picked it up fairly well. All should follow their example. It is our anti-fascist duty.

The matter is important. Our relations with the Spanish people in the towns where we trained, rested or went on leave have been excellent. They have welcomed us warmly, and we

have behaved decently. That is the way it should be. With the Spanish fighters in our ranks the comradeship has been even deeper. That too is natural, for the intimacy bred in trenches and battles is as intense as it is necessary. But a better knowledge of Spanish would enable us to learn much more of what our Spanish friends have to teach us.

It would be foolish to overstress the point and argue that unless we master the language we are not doing our best to win the war. The record of an increasingly victorious year in action shows how carefully we are attending to that fundamental purpose. Nor can it be particularly relevant, in the

midst of battles, to point out the cultural value of speaking an additional tongue. But what is vital is the fact that we must learn Spanish in order to fulfil our mission here with the maximum effectiveness.

This effectiveness demands the closest and most intimate relationship possible with our Spanish fellow-fighters in our Brigade. Such intimacy in turn depends largely on a good working knowledge of the language, sufficient to meet not only the most important but also the most trivial questions and demands made upon our understanding.

In the future, when the question «¿Habla Vd. español?» is asked, our reply must be not a stuttering «Un poco» but a prompt and confident «Sí, camarada!»

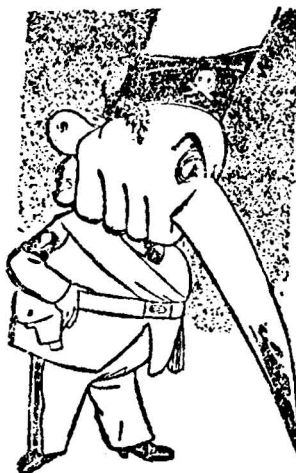


IN THE FASCIST ZONE

ON FEBRUARY 21, fourteen fascist planes were brought down by our «Chatos». Among them were 5 Meisserschmidts and 4 Fiats. After the capture of Teruel by the Republican Army, Franco sent distressing telegrams to Rome and Berlin. He pleaded for immediate and effective aid. He was promised it. Since then scores of planes have been flying over the Rhineintorebel Spain. Ships loaded from Italy with cannons, machine guns, grenades, bombs, rifles, explosives, tanks, petrol, and other war material have been slipping into the fascist ports of Cadiz. It looks like the Führer and the Duke are set on moving into Francoland



Republic. Now they're sorry they ever belived him. IT IS NOW well known that the hatred which exists between Anido and the Phalangists is growing more intense every day. What a popular guy this Anido must be. FASCIST organizations have infiltrated in Vizcaya with all the vigor they can muster since the fall of the North. Children between the ages of 7 and 10 are converted into young soldiers and given the name of «Pelayos»; those between the ages of 11 and 14 are called «Flechas». Boys between the ages of 15 and 18 are made «Cadetes» and prepared for the front. The sum total of the three groups are labeled «Legionarios». Recruiting is done by notifying the child's parents of his enlistment. No reply or protest is permitted. LAST SUNDAY, Hitler spoke to the German people. His speech can be divided into two main parts. In the first part he proclaimed himself as the saviour of Germany; in the second he announced sharply that the Third Reich was headed for war. He will go to war with Italy as his «brilliant second». War when the whole world waits peace.



bag and baggage. But one thing that worries Franco is the defiant way our «Glorioso» checks his guests' baggage. SHED A TEAR folks. Queipo de Llano's boss, Martinez Anido (said to be the real owner of rebel Spain) has just cracked down on Queipo by prohibiting him from speaking over Radio Seville. Queipo and Anido are great enemies. When Anido decreed that Queipo cease broadcasting, Queipo resisted. Then Franco came along and told Queipo to mind his manners and obey his «superior». The Seville General renounced his resistance but declared he would revenge himself soon. A SERIOUS INCIDENT took place between Nicolas Franco, brother of the rebel General, and Anido. The latter never could look at Nicolas without sensing a feeling of violent revolution in his stomach. This was mainly because of the influence Nicolas derived from his brother's position. To keep jealous Anido's feathers down the General was forced to sacrifice his kid brother by sending him to Portugal as the representative of the Rebel Government. BOSS

WHAT OF IT?



—There's talk of a new Franco British agreement.

—Why, dear, I thought the British had always agreed with Franco.

THE USE OF FIRE IN MOVEMENT

By MAJOR ALLAN JOHNSON

Article III

In order to illustrate the purposes for which fire and movement are used in combination it is well to consider two individuals *a* and *b*. Both *a* and *b* are equally armed, equally trained and equally defended by defensive works. *B* decides to drive *a* from his position. He begins his attack. It is clear that before he attacked he was about to shoot at *a* and *a* to shoot at him. But the moment that he moves, in order to do so, he has to cease firing. It becomes obvious, therefore, that *b* alone will be unable to drive *a* from his position. A third person, *c*, must be employed to help him. Now, while *b* moves, *c* continues to fire at *a*, thus preventing him from accurately shooting at *b* while in movement. *B* moves a certain distance and proceeds to shoot at *a*, allowing *c* to advance. The two of them alternate in fire and movement.

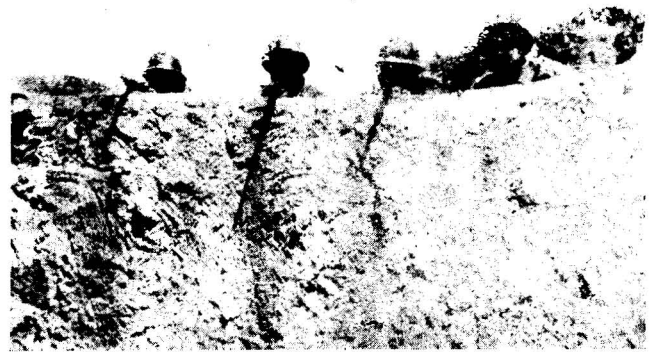
THE ATTACK

This is the principle upon which troops, as a whole, work in the attack. It is naturally obvious from this that troops in the attack necessarily attack in greater numbers than the defenders. The principle generally involved is, that while some individuals move forward other individuals continue their fire, in order to cover their advance. The principle, of course, is greatly widened out in its application, because not only must every soldier, as he advances to a new position, take up fire, but he must know, roughly, the designated target. During the instruction period this whole manoeuvre and tactic is taught under the heading of Musketry. The target in general is

designated as the "range so much", which the soldier corrects as he approaches nearer the target, and so many sight leaps in width. In other conditions the soldier proceeds to fire across a whole width of target and not only at one particular point. Each soldier doing this, during battle, sets up a screen of fire across the entire front.

FIRE SUPERIORITY

Before the attack commences it is necessary for the attacking troops to gain the superiority of fire. In other words, to be able to place so much fire upon the enemy as to prevent the enemy from firing upon troops moving in the open, with any degree of success. This superiority of fire is gained both by the use of machine gun over-head fire and also by the use of rifle while in the actual advance, cease the rifle fire, it becomes obvious that the amount of fire distributed against the enemy front is greatly lessened and large alleys are opened up, down which the enemy may fire with safety. Thus, if troops in the attack do not continue to fire as they advance, covering each other in the movement forward, they remove from themselves their greatest protection. In other words, they lose the superiority of fire and permit themselves to be picked off like rabbits while in the open. The general tendency with untrained troops is to get into the open and promptly dig a hole to hide in and play ostrich, with the unfortunate result that they receive heavy casualties, which are entirely unnecessary and which would not occur if the elements of musketry were put into practice during the advance.



ce. It is understandable that, for soldiers newly under fire, self protection is instinctively their first aim and, apparently, their only means of self protection is to dig a hole in which to hide. But in practice, although not quite so obvious, the fact is that this is about the most dangerous thing that they could do. If they continue to fire in an organized manner, as they advance, certain individuals firing to cover others digging fox holes for themselves and vice versa, the losses would be far less and advances would be made with great security.

NIGHT ATTACK

Certain other features in the advance of soldiers are important. In the day time, soldiers in the open in the attack, naturally move from cover to cover as individuals. How should they move? If they are in deflated position it is possible to move standing upright or in short dashes. If they are in low positions, upon which the enemy may fire from higher points, it is better that they should also move in short dashes. But, if they are in flat country, where the sweep of fire from the enemy covers great distances, it is

more advisable that they crawl. Although this may be a slower method of advance the crawling individual target is much harder to hit and is very hard, even, to see. At night, or in smoke clouds where it is necessary to remain in close contact, man with man, the only method of advance is in the erect position, moving forward slowly and quietly, until within the correct distance, when the assault is made suddenly.

GOOD MUSKETRY VITAL

For commanders the instruction of individuals and smaller units in musketry is of the most vital importance, for once troops are deployed in action there is little the unit commander can do to affect the tide of battle, since it is impossible for him to change his front once deployed, except by using his reserves. It is well for soldiers and commanders to bear this in mind and, therefore, by applying the principles of musketry to carry forward their advances with the best technique available, that of Musketry, and thereby achieve their objective with fewer casualties and more certainty of success.

TROUBLE FOR MOOCHO PINTER

By Andy



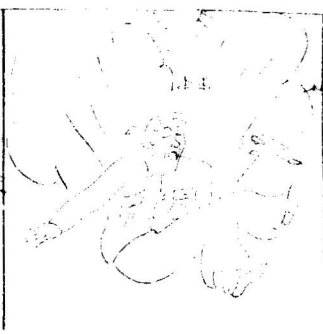
Dig at this here time of night?



I've got to sleep or I can't fight.



Leave me alone, I'll be all right.



WELL...

...able for Moocho Pinter).

THE MILITARY SITUATION TODAY

BARCELONA, Feb. 22.—Following a heroic resistance lasting over four days the Republican Command last night ordered their forces to evacuate Teruel in face of the pinchers movement with which the fascist forces threatened to encircle them. In view of this the Commander of the 46th Division, which had been entrusted with the defence of Teruel itself and which for over 48 hours had held up the enemy forces attacking the city from three sides, mustered his forces together and succeeded in forcing an exit toge-

ther with all his men and material. The present offensive, which is the fourth large-scale operation the rebel command has undertaken since the capture of Teruel by the Republican forces on December 22nd, began on Thursday when the fascist forces, supported by an enormous number of planes and a large amount of heavy artillery, forced their passage to the left bank of the River Alfambra five or six miles to the northeast of Teruel. The following day they continued the advance and occupied the village of Valdecabro, thus outflanking Teruel on the East. The next move was to storm the Mansueto, a hill lying between Valdecabro and Teruel, which holds a commanding position. From here the

enemy advanced towards Castrolvo, which lies to the south of the main road to Valencia and at the same time began to press from their positions to the west of Teruel. Here the Republicans retreated across the River Turia and eventually, as the circle around it grew tighter, decided to abandon the city itself. The fascist advance was possible only as a result of the tremendous reinforcements of planes and artillery which Hitler and Mussolini have supplied to Franco in recent weeks. It is essen-

tially by tremendously increasing the supply of planes and artillery. And the result of this increase is the recapture by the fascist of Teruel.

This concentrated attack against Teruel has been purposely delivered at a crucial moment in international politics in order to give Italy a stronger bargaining weapon with the British Government.

From a strictly military point of view the recapture of Teruel is not as spectacular as it may at first appear to the casual observer. This is the fourth counter-offensive the rebels have been forced to undertake in order to repair the moral damage caused them by the loss of Teruel. Or to put it more concretely, what the Republicans captured in six days with the loss of only 200 killed the rebels have taken two months to recapture, and in doing so have lost tens of thousands of men.

But, despite this temporary reverse, the Republicans have still gained their main objective. They forced the rebel command to give up the idea of attacking at Guadalajara or on some other front and have obliged them to employ all their first-class men and material merely to recapture what at the best of times was only a small provincial capital of 12,000 inhabitants and today following repeated fascist bombardments is little more than a heap of ruins.

Taking all in all, the Republicans have lost little and have made some very important gains. They have succeeded in gaining two months of valuable time which, translated into the offensive strength added to the Spanish People's Army, may well be one of the decisive factors of the war as a whole.



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tial to point out that at a time when Italy talks of withdrawing «volunteers» from Spain, she is not withdrawing, but is actually increasing technical aid in the form of heavy artillery and aeroplanes. The offer to withdraw «volunteer» combatants should deceive nobody. For Mussolini realises that the present Republican soldiers are far superior to Italian «volunteers» conscripted to fight for an alien cause in a foreign country. The only way in which he can avoid defeat in Spain is



Todo nuevo recluta debe ver en cada antiguo combatiente internacional a su mejor amigo y el más experimentado camarada de lucha.



"All German", Says Pilot in Interview

The well-known Committee of Non-Intervention has revived after a long recess and is once more engaged in whatever its activities might be called. With headquarters in London, however, it is quite possible that during its hibernation the committee ran across the following interview that the Vienna correspondent of the London "Daily Express" had with one of the twenty-six German aviators who deserted from the famous "Richthofen Squadron". It should be borne in mind that the "Daily Express" has always been a firm supporter of the policy called non-intervention.

The interview contains the following statement by the German flier: "I was a member of Section 334 of the squadron. At the beginning of last August we received an order to present ourselves as «volunteers» for service in Spain. We sailed from Kiel in a German merchant vessel with 46 planes and about 200 aviators and mechanics on board. In Spain we were taken to an airfield near Salamanca. We stayed there two months, during which we took part in fourteen aerial combats, losing six planes and twelve pilots.

"The personnel at this field was exclusively German. There was not one Spanish flier. On October 26 we returned to Germany by vessel again to Kiel. This leave was based on the understanding that we would return to Spain on December 1. Needless to say, we never did."

Por todas partes debe existir el espíritu entusiasta de fraternidad que es la base y la fuerza de nuestras Brigadas Internacionales.



The VOLUNTEER FOR LIBERTY

Organ of the international brigades



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Barcelona, February 25 - 1938

NEGRIN CALLS FOR "THE WILL TO CONQUER" IN RADIO BROADCAST TO THE NATION

The evacuation of Teruel does not in any way diminish the certainty of a victory for Republican Spain over fascism. This was the keynote of a radio speech broadcast to the people of Spain by Prime Minister Juan Negrin on Saturday night, February 26.

In his opening remarks Dr. Negrin said that the great superiority of material, which is only transitory, of the opponent's army has forced the soldiers of the Republic to abandon Teruel. «The news», he said, «of the evacuation of that city was not withheld a single instant from the public.»

He announced that «It has always been the pride of the Government of the Republic that it keeps the country informed of the exact course of our war. No episode whether dramatic or daring, has ever been hidden from the nation or distorted.»

Speaking of Teruel, Dr. Negrin said: «At Teruel the Republic destroyed the enemy's plans. For two months the most violent battles since the beginning of the war were taking place on this front. The Levante front has, therefore, attained extraordinary importance both nationally and internationally. And the changes which took place there show a favorable balance for the Republic.»

«The Italo-German command has been preparing an offensive since the middle of November, which was boastfully announced with the greatest publicity. It was announced by the press, the fascist radio, and the newspapers of

..... el día en que el Ejército Popular se posesionó de Teruel, rindieron los últimos focos de su resistencia interior, creíamos en la victoria de la causa republicana con la misma convicción, con la misma fe que creemos en ella ahora que Teruel, por obra exclusiva de la artillería y la aviación italo-germánica, no es de la República, no es de España. Nuestra voluntad de victoria y nuestra segura confianza en el triunfo no han sufrido disminución. Las conservamos intactas y las vivificamos con nuestros entusiasmos y trabajos.

DR. JUAN NEGRIN

«The will to conquer should ring like a song of certainty and strength at the lathes, at the wheels in the factories, in the work of the peasants, in offices and workshops. And with a model rearguard working at the highest tension in the service of our arms, we shall be able to say to our heroic fighters:

«Officers, Commissars and Soldiers of the People's Army! All the Spaniards are endeavoring to excel themselves. Excel yourselves, do not yield an inch of ground to the foreign invaders. With rigid discipline, with conscientious training, with invincible heroism, make of our Army the victorious Army of an independent, free and happy Spain.»

the countries which are invading Spain. This offensive was used by the diplomats of those countries in order to further their intrigues in the chanceries. Merely the propaganda about this offensive, which it was declared would be a decisive one, was in itself a weapon which the enemy was using against us. For the leaders of the fascists it was also a support by which they tried to bolster up the rotten morale of their rear. By promising a lightning victory they tried to animate those of their partisans who displayed fatigue and doubt. They wished above all else to disarm and discourage those Spaniards in fascist territory who desire our victory and who are becoming more numerous each day.

«Under those circumstances, the Government of the Republic decided to put into practice an elementary rule of strategy: to upset the enemy's plans by striking first. The Government decided to impose its will on the enemy and to oblige them to fight where it suited us. In the middle of December we began the Teruel offensive. In one week we captured the fortified city. Our Army took thousands of prisoners. Our splendid Air Force brought down many German and Italian planes...»

«Our success was a terrible blow for the enemy. The military prestige of Italy and Germany crashed as it had before at Jarama, Guadalajara, Brunete, and Belchite. In this way the diplomatic maneu-

vers of these countries were hindered. Behind the fascist lines there was commotion; some were in panic, the rest rejoicing. As a result of the strength shown by the Republican Army, the enemy was forced to renounce its plans. In order to recapture Teruel they threw their best, shock troops against our line. These troops had been held in preparation for their offensive. During two months, in view of the courage of our soldiers, entire divisions of the rebel army collapsed. The recapture of the city which from the beginning of January the rebel leaders considered certain, appeared to be hindered by insuperable difficulties. The traitors had to ask for additional aid from their bosses abroad. Many ships laden with planes and guns arrived in fascist territory from the harbors of Germany and Italy. With these considerable reinforcements in material, for which they were paid with pieces of the land of our fatherland, the enemy was able, after two months of desperate attempts, to recapture territory which has proved a cemetery for its chosen troops.»

Negrin continued: «Now is not the time to have more than one thought and one desire: to crush the enemy. By fighting at the front, working more in the rear, by pursuing and uncovering them when they hide among us.»

In his closing remarks he stated: «These are moments of sacrifice,

but also of confidence in victory. Moments which demand that we should increase still further the common desire which unites all of us Spaniards against the enemies of the people.»

«A few days ago an international adventurer cynically proclaimed from Germany his aim to regulate at his caprice the destinies. This he will never achieve. The Spanish people have never, never allowed themselves to be ruled by the will of foreigners. They fought in the past and are fighting today for the right to decide their own destiny for themselves.»

«The last foreign cannon-shots in Teruel have not been able to extinguish the echo of our first victory, which will flourish again with the help of all in new and decisive victories.»

«The will to conquer should ring like a song of certainty and strength at the lathes, at the wheels in the factories, in the work of the peasants, in offices and workshops. And with a model rear working at the highest tension in the service of our arms, we shall be able to say to our heroic fighters:

«Officers, Commissars, and Soldiers of the People's Army! All the Spaniards are endeavoring to excel themselves. Excel yourselves, do not yield an inch of ground to the foreigners. With rigid discipline, with conscientious training, with invincible heroism, make of our Army the victorious Army of an independent, free, and happy SPAIN.»

..... Tendréis, soldados del pueblo, todo el armamento que necesitáis para alcanzar con vuestro valor y vuestra pericia victorias decisivas en la lucha por la libertad de España. Para ello, se afanará nuestra retaguardia, trabajandomás y mejor, estimulados todos por el sublime anhelo de aportar esfuerzos, desvelos y sacrificios al más rápido triunfo en esta lucha que enorgullece a cuantos en ella participan.

DR. JUAN NEGRIN

DON MANUEL AZAÑA

A Brief Biography of Our President

Manuel Azaña Díaz was born in Alcalá de Henares on the first of January 1887. He had his first schooling there. He studied law in the college of María Cristina in El Escorial, and at 20 obtained a degree. He went to Madrid with the idea of becoming a lawyer. There he attended the lectures of Don Francisco Giner de los Ríos and began his social life in the Athenaeum for Literature, Art, and Science, where he was to distinguish himself years later.

As doctor of Law he was a successful candidate for a vacant place in the Direction General of Registers. Obtaining a grant from the Council for the Development of Studies, he left Spain and spent the year 1911 in Paris. From there he sent his first articles to the Madrid newspaper «La Correspondencia de España», signed with the pseudonym Martín Píñol.

Reputation as speaker

In a series of speeches in defence of the memory of Don Segismundo Moret he showed himself an excellent speaker and was elected first secretary, in 1913, to the Athenaeum of Madrid.

During the European War, 1914-1918, he carried out in the Athenaeum a policy of frank adhesion to the allied cause, organising memorable meetings such as the one held in the Bull Ring at Madrid. Together with other Spanish intellectuals he visited the French, English, and Italian war fronts, from which he sent articles to «El Liberal» of Madrid.

He spent the year 1919-1920 in Paris. On his return to Spain he founded, with Don Cipriano Rivas Cherif, the literary review, «La Pluma», a monthly publication which continued to appear for two years. Then Azaña became editor of the weekly «España» which was suspended in 1925 by the dictatorship of General Primo de Rivera.

His political career began in 1913 when he joined the Reformist Party, whose head, Don Melquíades Álvarez, attempted an impossible liberal collaboration with the monarchy. Opposed to the passive attitude of this party, Azaña, with a group of friends, founded the «Republican Action».



Between 1920 and 1931 he wrote and published «The Garden of the Friars», an autobiographical novel about his childish meditations in El Escorial; «The Life of Don Juan Valera», which was awarded the First Prize of National Literature and «La Corona» (The Crown), a dramatic work. He translated Borrow's Bible in Spain, Merimee's «His Holiness Coach» and Chesterton's «The Orb and the Cross».

Minister of war

He took part in the Pact of San Sebastián where the representatives of the Republican Action, the Radical Party, Catalan Esquerra, Galician Left and Socialist Party, met together; and he revealed himself to the masses as a great speaker in the meeting of 1930 in the Bull Ring in Madrid.

On the occasion of the uprising of Jaca, the members of this committee were pursued by the police, and some were imprisoned. But Manuel Azaña escaped.

When the Republic was established by a majority vote, Alcalá Zamora became President and Azaña received the portfolio of War.

The Minister of War is usually a military man. Azaña made important reforms in the army. He had published years earlier the first volume of a work on «Studies in French Contemporary Politics. I. Military Policy».

Reforms

When Alcalá-Zamora resigned, Don Manuel Azaña was elected

Prime Minister and held his post, as well as that of War Minister, up to 1933.

During his term of office he had to suppress various extremist movements of which the most dangerous was the military monarchist insurrection of August 1932, led by General Sanjurjo, who was arrested and sentenced to death. The sentence, however, was not carried out.

After the Constitution was approved, the chief of state elected, and the Law of Agrarian Reform passed, as well as the Statute of Catalonia and the Divorce Law, there were still lacking a series of complementary laws which had to be approved by the Cortes. The President differed with the Cortes in the matter of these laws. Although Parliament voted confidence in his government, Azaña had no confidence in the Cortes, and therefore dissolved it, thus granting power to Lleroux.

Azaña was elected deputy for Bilbao in the new elections, and took his place in the opposition. He saw that the Republic was being betrayed by its worst enemies. He took no part in the October uprising, which was provoked by the C. E. D. A. (a reactionary party) which was taking part in the government although it did not respect the regime. Nevertheless, he was arrested and interned on a warship in the port of Barcelona.

His innocence established at law, he returned to political life. In the fields of Mestalla (Valencia), Lasarzarre (Bilbao) and Comillas (Madrid) crowds of hundreds of thousands of people collected to hear him. This was at the beginning of the vigorous reaction of the Spanish left parties. On the triumph of the Popular Front, in February 1936, Manuel Azaña became Prime Minister.

Zamora was removed from the presidency, and Don Diego Martínez Barrio occupied the post provisionally. Later Azaña was elected president.

Don Santiago Casares Quiroga became Prime Minister.

On the 17th of July, 1936 the military uprising took place. Azaña has remained President and representative of the Spanish people.

La pérdida de Teruel no debe influir en el ánimo de los combatientes

LOS SACRIFICIOS DE HOY, FRUCTIFICARÁN EN LA VICTORIA DE MAÑANA

Todo el mundo en su puesto — dice el general jefe del Estado Mayor Central, — cumpliendo su deber de español, y no se harán esperar los días de triunfo

El Ministerio de Defensa Nacional ha facilitado la siguiente nota:

«El día 22, después de la evacuación de Teruel, el general jefe del Estado Mayor Central dirigió a las fuerzas del Ejército de Levante la siguiente orden general: «La situación táctica creada alrededor de la plaza de Teruel, con la caída del Mansueto y Santa Bárbara, producida el pasado día 19 después de un brutal ataque de aviación y artillería enemigas, de más de diez horas, se resolvió en la jornada de ayer desfavorablemente para nuestras armas. Las tropas que la defendían, después de agotar sus posibilidades de resistencia, atacadas por tres frentes y envueltas desde las catorce se ayer, lograron, ya de noche, conducidas por su jefe, abrirse paso a viva fuerza a través de las líneas enemigas y replegarse a nuestras posiciones del sur de la plaza.»

La caída de Teruel, conquistado con tanta pericia y abnegación por nuestro Ejército, no debe influir depresivamente en el ánimo de los combatientes, sino, por el contrario, exaltar su fortaleza moral.

La guerra es sacrificio, y es preciso saber afrontar éste en los momentos que la guerra lo exige, seguros de que los sacrificios de hoy fructificarán mañana en la victoria de la causa popular que defendemos.

Si la conquista de Teruel fué un airo de gloria para el Ejército Popular, su pérdida no puede tener más importancia que el dolor de pasar a manos de nuestros invasores un trozo más de nuestro suelo.

El mando del Ejército Popular, opuestamente a la conducta que siguen los rebeldes, no tiene por qué ocultar los reveses. Los espíritus fuertes y los ánimos bien templados se sorjan en la adversidad. Por eso el mando espera que todos los jefes, subordinados y las tropas saldrán de la dura experiencia de las cuatro últimas jornadas con la decisión inquebrantable de afrontar las nuevas situaciones por difíciles que sean. La de hoy no es grave, ni siquiera difícil. Que todo el mundo se mantenga en su puesto, simplemente, cumpliendo su deber de español y no se harán esperar los días de triunfo.

De orden del ministro de Defensa Nacional. — El general jefe del Estado Mayor Central, *Vicente Rojo.* »

De la conjunción de los tres esfuerzos — Ejército, retaguardia y Gobierno — surgirá la victoria republicana de que España espera su renacer.

DR. JUAN NEGRÍN

LA EVACUACION DE TERUEL Y LA NOTA OFICIOSA DEL GOBIERNO

Tardaron dos meses en recuperar lo que habían perdido en seis días. Y su penosa victoria del 22 de febrero no puede ser, honradamente, militarmente, técnicamente, apuntada en su haber. Se la deben de un modo íntegro y total, de un modo que no deja lugar a dudas, al Comité de No Intervención en sentido único, de Londres. ¡Sea para sus miembros la gloria! Y su presidente, el inefable y casi inverosímil Lord Plymouth, pescador de caña en los *week-ends*, reciba de los españoles, de los españoles que merecen todavía llamarse así, un emocionado y hondísimo recuerdo. Tenga la seguridad de que no le olvidaremos nunca.

Acordémonos... Era en diciembre. En torno a Sigüenza, se aglomeraban las artillerías facciosas: baterías de todos los calibres, pero predominando los mdeianos y los grandes; carros de asalto en número crecidísimo; centenares de ametralladoras; repuestos fantásticos de municiones; víveres, ambulancias: todo lo que hay que esperar en una ofensiva a fondo, de la que se espera resultados de mucho alcance estratégico. El que escribe estos humildes comentarios intrascendentes, presencié, cuando la Guerra Europea, en el frente aliado occidental de Francia, Bélgica y Alsacia, espectáculo semejante, y debe decir que, a despecho de la importancia que entonces ya se daba a la mecánica y a la química, sobre lo que llamaban los alemanes, cínicamente, con su racial y nacional desprecio del individuo, "material humano", todavía los generalísimos y sus estados mayores atendían más a la calidad de las fuerzas, que al hermenéutico destructivo que había de confiárseles. No es que creyeran, con el ruso Souwaroff, que "la bala es loca y cuerda la bayoneta"; es que su mentalidad occidentalista, liberal y democrático, a despecho de la deformación profesional, les obligaba a considerar primordiales los valores del espíritu. Un soldado, para ellos, a pesar de todo, seguía siendo un hombre.

Un hombre sigue siendo también para nosotros; pero al otro lado de la frontera provisional que separa a las dos Españas, un soldado es una pieza de la máquina militar y nada vale por sí mismo. De ahí que predominen, en los elementos de choque, los mercenarios de diversas razas, lenguas y colores, sobre el quinto sacado de los cuarteles

hispanos y sobre el reservista arrancado de su hogar por la violencia. El condotiero no tiene, en la pelea, más que estímulos de orden subalterno, de satisfacción fácil. Franco ofrecía a los kabileños del Rif y de Yebala botín pingüe y mujeres hermosas. Sabía que así halagaba su primitivismo elemental y básico. ¿Qué ese botín y esas mujeres tenían que ser *raziado* el uno y mancilladas las otras, en la tierra de España? Es verdad; pero un general a la española, cuando se decide a sublevarse contra el régimen que se dieran libremente sus compatriotas, prescinde de todos los escrúpulos.

Pero decía que, allá a mediados de diciembre, los facciosos acumulaban al norte de la Alcarria divisiones y material para el gran ataque, operación de largo aliento, que pensaban dar a nuestras líneas. ¿Acaso habían imaginado también conjugar ese ataque, muy duro desde luego, con otro por el puente de Arganda? Madrid ya no se puede tomar de frente; pero sus comunicaciones pasan por una zona no muy ancha: cortándolas, se le pone en un trance difícil.

Parece que el comienzo de la gran embestida alcarreña estaba fijada para el 16. El 15 atacamos nosotros. Atacamos entre borrascas de nieve, con un frío siberiano; atacamos, poniendo en el ataque, a la vez, inteligencia y bravura. En seis días,

rompimos y tomamos, salvo algunos reductos interiores, un vastísimo campo atrincherado y una ciudad.

El mando enemigo vaciló al pronto. Se le hacía muy duro renunciar a sus planes y dejarse maniobrar. Y de ahí que enviara, un poco a la diablo, sus primeros auxilios. Pero, al fin, tuvo que aceptar la amarga realidad de su descalabro. Iba a acometer: le acometieron; iba a sorprender: le sorprendieron; iba a derrotar: le derrotaban...

Se le abrían dos caminos: o acusaba el golpe, se resignaba como en Belchite, organizaba un flanco defensivo en el oeste y el sud de Teruel y continuaba desarrollando sus actividades agresivas en la Alcarria, o renunciaba a sus planes primitivos y volaba, con todos los elementos acumulados en Sigüenza y su región, al socorro de Teruel.

Eligió el segundo. Equivocadamente, a mi modesto juicio, y también en contra de la opinión autorizada de un crítico militar tan escuchado como el coronel alemán Von Paenecke, profesor de la Escuela de Guerra de Berlín. Todavía podrá admitirse que Franco, mientras resistían los sitiados de Teruel, se negara a abandonarles. Había una razón de carácter sentimental. Lo absurdo es que rendidos Rey y Barba, aun continuara la batalla del Bajo Aragón.

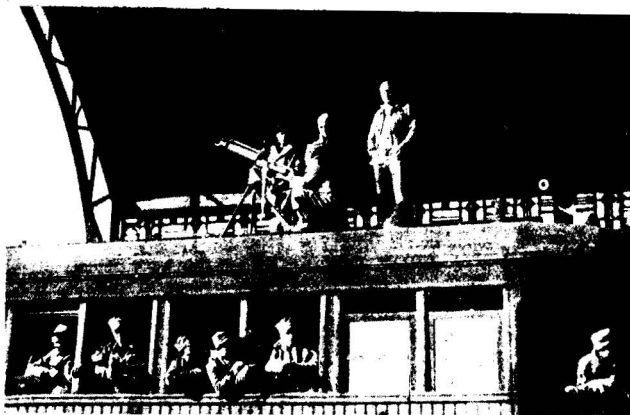
¿La lección que se desprende de los hechos? Esta: que en las guerras modernas, David, para vencer a Goliath, ha de usar un armamento análogo en eficiencia al suyo. La honda vibradora, la piedra en la frente, la caída del gigante, hacen un gran efecto, cuando se lee tal escena en la Biblia; pero los tiempos son de realidades.

Las democracias tienen miedo, mucho miedo: no acaban de comprender que nos estamos batiendo por ellas; pero nosotros, tan débiles, tan pequeños, tan abandonados, podemos, si queremos, anular, parcialmente siquiera, la superioridad técnica enemiga. Con energía, serenidad y espíritu de sacrificio, aprovechando todas las colaboraciones que se nos ofrezcan (y es de creer que se nos ofrecerán), lograremos que nuestra aviación, y nuestra artillería, y nuestro municionamiento respondan, en plazo muy breve, a lo que exigen las circunstancias.

Pero ello ha de ser hecho rápidamente, porque los rebeldes tienen prisa y sus protectores lo mismo: pongamos nuestra confianza en el Gobierno, desde luego; pero ayudémosle todos: nos va —que no lo dude nadie— más que la vida...

FABIAN VIDAL

ON THE MOVE



MACHINE GUN MOUNTED on the roof of a troop train carrying the men of the Fifteenth Brigade to the front. In more than a year of successive actions, the Fifteenth Brigade has seen active service on many fronts -- at Jarama, Brunete, Aragón and Teruel. And it hasn't always had troop trains for transportation, a fact to which many of our bunioned comrades will testify.

CUBAN VOLUNTEERS IN SPAIN

In January 1937, there arrived at the training base of the Lincoln Battalion a new contingent of American volunteers, composed in a large part of youthful antifascist Cubans. At the head, as military leader came the energetic Cuban student leader Rodolfo de Armas. Rodolfo was the leading spirit in the organization of the «Centurie Guiteras» Column which has since played such an honorable role on the Spanish antifascist front. This Column consisted of young men who belonged to the «Julio Mella» Cuban Club of New York City.

When the Lincolns moved into action on the Jarama front in February, a year ago, as part of the newly established 15th International Brigade, the significant Cuban Column formed the third Section of the First Company.

INTEREST NATURAL

When the military rebellion broke out in Spain, it was only natural for the Cuban people to take decided interest in Republican victory. Cuba was a Spanish colony up to the year 1898 when the Cuban people struck out for freedom. They won it; at least in name. But the rising domination of American economic interests kept a heavy hand on the political development of this small, autonomous state, and still prevents the people from running their country in their own way.

Cuban history since the revolution has been a succession of violent changes. Action is followed by reaction. Peaceful periods have



A GROUP OF CUBAN and Spanish comrades in the Fifteenth International Brigade. The original Lincoln Battalion contained a complete Cuban section when it was formed more than a year ago.

been short, but the lessons of revolution have been well learned.

The total population of Cuba does not exceed four and a half millions. The majority comes from Spanish stock; a minority are Negroes. All alike speak Spanish. Men and women whose fathers and grandfathers fought for national independence were brought up to hate their Spanish dominators. Now from the other side of the world they see in the old country a struggle taking place that is analogous to their own.

The masses who have no sympathy with the dominating class do not miss its significance.

BRAVE LEADER

On February 23rd last, when the Lincolns initiated their first attack against the fascists at Jarama, the Cubans suffered the most serious losses. Rodolfo de Armas was one of the first to get killed. After rescuing a comrade, he charged again and clenched his fist high in the air and beckoned others to follow. At that moment a bullet struck him in the leg and as he stooped forward to grip his leg with his hands, two more bullets hit him, one in the head and the other in the jaw.

A young medical student at the time that Machado effected his dictatorship over the Cuban people, Rodolfo was a ceaseless fighter against the fascist regime. Later a price of 50,000 dollars was put on his head by Fulgencio Batista, present dictator of Cuba.

Among these killed at Jarama with Rodolfo were: Rufo, Guijarro, Pedro Hernández, Pérez and García Maldonado. Many other members of the Cuban group were more or less seriously wounded.

The Cuban group within the 15th Brigade was not reformed until the days of the Aragon offensive, when it went into the thick of the fighting at Fuentes de Ebro and was again cut to pieces. The Company Commander

and Political Commissar, both Cubans, were killed. Romero Meruelo and Florentino Ortiz were men of ability, whose loss is more than Cuba's.

LISTER LONG IN CUBA

It is proper to mention here that the Cubans have not only served in the 15th Brigade, but hundreds have fought and are fighting in other branches of the People's Army. There were a number of Cubans fighting in the North before it fell. The 11th and 12th International Brigades can claim more than three score of them. There are many Cubans scattered throughout the transport services, tank corps, artillery units, and in the aviation. Cubans are also in the Republican Navy. It appears that in the Cuban Services reactionary political opinion is by no means as stable as in the forces of the imperialist countries. After all, it is not long since the Army and Navy were fighting on the side of revolution. For this reason many men have come over from both branches and brought useful experience and training into Spain. Lt.-Col. Enrique Lister, himself, spent many years and learned much on the Cuban Island.

Of all the units of the Peoples Army, the Campesino Division can perhaps claim the largest number of Cubans. Jaime Bofill is Adjutant Political Commissar of the 46th Division del Campesino. And Policarpo Candón, before his death in action at Teruel several weeks ago, was the trus-



POLICARPO CANDON, Cuban leader and Commander of the First Mobile Shock Brigade of the 46th Division del Campesino, photographed with El Campesino a few months before he fell on the field of battle at Teruel



CUBANS DEMONSTRATING in New York man from the left, wearing a dark suit, bareheaded youth in the row behind the flag



TWO CUBAN OFFICERS in the 46th Division conversing with Langston Hughes (center), American poet and novelist. At the left is Captain Basilio Cuera, and facing Hughes is Brigade Commissar Jaime Bofill.



CUBAN DICTATOR BATISTA



against the Batista dictatorship. The second is Pablo de la Torre. The smiling, Rodolfo de Armas. Both died fighting in Spain.

ted and well-loved Commander of the first mobile shock-brigade in the same division. Basilio Cuera, well-known Cuban baseball star, who went through the Jarama battles with the Guiteras Column, is a Captain in the Campesino Division.

One of the first distinguished Cubans to die fighting was Pablo de la Torre. He was a University lecturer. In Cuba the student life has a far greater influence in politics than in the larger countries. Pablo was active from his early student days, and served several prison sentences for his convictions. He came to Spain during the early days of the war and became Political Commissar of the Battalion which was under Campesino's command in December of 1936. He died before the new year.

Many Cubans have given their lives and many more will continue to sacrifice themselves fighting with the Loyal Spanish people against the forces of fascism that would want to enslave a free people. With fascism driven out of Spain once and for all, the Cubans know that it will mean the gathering of forces to destroy fascism in the rest of the world. A victory for the Republic would be a death blow to Batista's fascist aspirations. The Cuban people, too, are waiting to strike for freedom.

Gallo Thanks the Madrid Peoples Front for Honor to International Brigades

TO THE GENERAL SECRETARY OF THE PEOPLE'S FRONT OF MADRID

Dear Comrade,

We have received your letter in which you inform us that the subscription in honor of the International Brigades which was organized by the Madrid People's Front has realized 270,000 pesetas, which you are placing at our disposition.

On my own behalf and behalf of all the volunteers in the International Brigades I thank you for your initiative in this matter in which you wish to bring out once again the unbreakable bonds of solidarity which unite us in the common struggle in defence of the freedom and independence of all the peoples; the bonds which unite the heroic people of Madrid with the peoples of the whole world who have sent their best sons here to fight in the International Brigades.

We especially thank the generous donors and we beg you to inform them of our deepest sentiments of gratitude.

The sum which you have collected was intended to pay honor to the International Brigades. For that very reason we think that it cannot be devoted only to the fighters in the International Brigades, but must also be devoted to the brave fighters in the Spanish Brigades who by their heroism have shown us the road to follow to defeat national and international fascism. Because of this we beg you to keep at your disposition 150,000 pesetas from the sum collected. You will use this as seems to you most fitting in order to aid the Spanish fighters who must now fight against the hard and inclement winter weather.

The remainder of the sum which you have put at our disposal will be devoted to meeting the cost of cultural work among the combatants in our Brigades and for the development of the work of looking after our fighters' children.

I send warmest greetings on behalf of myself and all the volunteers to you and to all those who have responded to your fine initiative.

L. GALLO



A REAL INTERNATIONAL GROUP in the early Lincoln Battalion. Left to right, the comrades grouped around their rifles are a Mexican, an American Negro, a Filipino, a Cuban and a Japanese



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INTERNATIONAL BRIGADES

For correspondence, use the following address: VOLUNTEER FOR LIBERTY
S. R. I. 555-E PLAZA ALTOZANO ALBACETE

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MINISTRY OF NATIONAL DEFENSE ON THE EVACUATION OF TERUEL

After the Cabinet meeting on February 22, the following official note was issued regarding the evacuation of Teruel:

«The news of the evacuation of Teruel was published by the Ministry of National Defence a few minutes after it took place. For it is the express desire of the Government to keep the country informed as to the progress of the war. The evacuation was carried out in perfect military order and without loss of effectives or of material, in accordance with the plans of the High Command. The high morale of the Republican troops was unable to overcome the accumulation of German and Italian material gathered by the rebels as a result of the advantages afforded them by the policy of Non-Intervention, which can record among its victories this most recent of the evacuation of Teruel.

«The inequality of war material, which was recently increased as a result of the shipment of abundant and frequent reinforcements of artillery and aeroplanes from Germany and Italy, was not unknown to the Government and induced it to warn the country against adversities which might take place in the progress of the war and, at the same time, to increase its efforts to obtain the necessary elements which, once the equality of means is reestablished, will increase the strength of the soldiers of the Republic. We shall overcome all kinds of difficulties and reverses which are setbacks, but by no means decisive, and annul the inequality to which we have referred.

«The People's Army, which in the last days of Teruel excelled its former heroism, will end by possessing the elements which it needs in order to oppose and resist the invaders and rebels.

«This certainty, which the Government guarantees by its work, should be interpreted in the rear as a stimulus to improve the output of our industrial production, which is indispensable if we are to obtain equality in arms.

«From a military point of view the evacuation of Teruel is of secondary importance and does not diminish the advantages obtained as a result of its capture by the Republican Army. Thanks to the effects of the capture of Teruel by the Republicans the offensive which the rebels were preparing against Madrid was frustrated and they were obliged to renounce their initiative in order to counteract ours.

«Were it not for the superiority — which will not last long — of planes and artillery accumulated by the rebels at the expense of Germany and Italy, the soldiers of the Republic who only after a heroic fight surrendered the city of Teruel, would not have evacuated it. It is not the «volunteers» who have recaptured the city, but the tremendous masses of foreign planes and artillery.»

No es hora más que de tener un solo pensamiento y una sola voluntad: aplastar al enemigo. Aplastarle luchando en el frente, traban-

jando mas en la retaguardia, persiguiéndole y desenmascarándole cuando se oculta entre nosotros.

DR. JUAN NERÓN

IN THE FASCIST ZONE

F. G. Stork, writing in the Norwegian newspaper, «Arbeiderbladet» estimates Franco's forces as follows:

Italians: 120,000, divided into four divisions, entirely Italian. There is also a fifth division called «The Black Arrows», 70 per cent Italian and 30 per cent Spanish. Germans: 20,000 technicians and experts. Foreign Legion: 15,000 divided into Banderas of 1,000 each. Forty per cent of these are claimed to be volunteers. Sixty per cent are Spaniards who have entered the Legion because they are better paid (three pesetas daily). *Requetés*: 80,000 men. *Phalangists*: 45,000 men, only 10 per cent of whom are volunteers. To this list must be added the Moors and several hundred thousand Spanish conscripts.

Talking of Franco's Foreign Legion, the London «Daily Express» has recently published an account by one of these Legionnaires. His name is Walter W. Schaible, and until a month ago he was a sergeant in Franco's forces, in charge of a machine gun on the Madrid front. After being wounded, he escaped from the country, back to England. His account, in part, follows:

«The brutal discipline of Franco's army got me down. I saw dozens of men beaten almost unconscious, knocked to the ground, and stamped on by an officer... At about the time of the Italians' rout at Guadalajara in March I was wounded... I was put in a hospital with a number of Ital-

own «Ten Commandments», of which we quote only one: «Mussolini is always right». That, comments the British Daily Worker, makes the other nine unnecessary.

Fascism is having its headaches in the movies as well as in other fields. A wireless to the New York Times from Berlin has the following to say about the cinematic plight of the land which has decreed thumbs down on Charlie Chaplin and Mickey Mouse:

«The year just past (1937) was a sad one for German films. The



Film Chamber has just reported that all three of Berlin's longest runs went to foreign films: two American and one French... The hoped-for revival since last Spring, when the government assumed control of the film industry financially, did not appear. German films still are not wanted except in those countries with whom Germany is politically allied... Only in Insurgent Spain were «sensational gains» made in respect to the German film-export market. Franco must swallow not only what is quaintly called his pride but also the miles of celluloid that Hitler sees fit to feed him. «Apparently», says the dispatch, «German films follow the flag.» And Der Film, German cinema organ, writes: «Before the civil war French films enjoyed the leading position. Naturally in nationalist (fascist) Spain, German and Italian films have the leading position.»

Yes, life is so beautiful in Queipo de Llana's towns in Southern Spain that «scores of troops and carabinieri desert daily.» The source of this statement is Gibraltar, to which the deserting men make a beeline. Further: «It is reported that about 50 artillerymen attached to the Punta Canero and Tarifa batteries disappeared one night after having bribed coastal watchmen, who «escaped with them.» And southern Spain used to be known as a land of milk and honey!



ians. The stories I heard from them put me off fascism forever...»

Schaible's estimate of the number of Moors in Franco's army is «50,000.» When he got back to the firing line, he says, it took him only a couple of days to realize he was up against a vastly improved enemy. «Our casualties», he writes, «were nearly twice as many as theirs.»

Mussolini has recently issued his

THE ATTACK AND COUNTER-ATTACK

Decisions in war are not won by passive action. To defend may be strategically necessary to bring about the proper method for decisive action, but the decision itself as to the outcome of a battle or a war depends upon the determination with which the principle of attack is carried forward.

ATTACK

Attacks, in general, are divided into certain quite definite phases. *First* there is the advance in column, when troops continue to move forward in solid bodies; at this point they are out of range of any type of fire. *Second* when they come within the zone of artillery fire they adopt what is known as the "approach march formation", called in the Spanish Army the "artillery formation", the widely separate files moving cautiously forward to avoid casualties from shrapnel. *Third*, as soon as these files come within the zone of maximum range machine gun fire they are deployed into combat formation and continue to advance cautiously. *Fourth*, as they come within closer range of the effective machine gun and rifle fire, there comes the period of advancing the attack. It is at this time that the principles of fire and movement must both be employed. These principles are carried forward until the attacking troops are within hand grenade distance of the enemy line, at which time, *fifth*, the assault takes place suddenly and with great determination. Untrained troops, as a rule, generally consider that when a successful assault has been completed the attack is over. This is

Fourth of a Series of Five Articles Dealing with
Military Questions, by the Commander of
the Battalion of Instruction N.º 15

MAJOR ALLAN JOHNSON



incorrect, for the enemy is organized in depth and the infantry attack must be continued from objective to objective. *Sixth*, following the assault must come the passing of the enemy line, the reorganizing of their troops and the preparation, immediately, to carry forward the attack to the next objective. When a series of objectives has been attained, at the commander's discretion one of two things will be in the *seventh* phase, whether to pursue the enemy if he breaks or to organize the ground seized if the enemy's resistance is still determined.

COUNTER-ATTACK

It is necessary, also, to remind commanders that, since the best defence is attack, the enemy will

work. Any delay on their part permits him to re-organize himself on his secondary lines and helps him to make a determined counter-attack against us from his reserve lines of resistance.

SKILL BRINGS VICTORY

The imperative necessity in all actions is the determination on our part to carry forward our attacks in a skilled, determined and disciplined manner, to protect ourselves as much as possible with our own fire and when delivering an attack, to deliver it with suddenness and ferocity, remembering, always, that the greater the surprise in the delivery of an attack and the greater the determination displayed during that attack, the more paralyzing the psychological effect upon the enemy forces. Great victories are never won by indecisive, unskilled and shilly-shallying troops, but, to the contrary, such troops may only expect defeat and be forced into the unpleasant necessity of retreating and defending their lines. There is little question that the moral qualities of our soldiers are greater than those of the fascists and that if our troops are properly trained and our plans are carried out with vigor, determination and ferocity our enemy will soon be defeated.

¡Ojo a los agentes de Franco!

Se ocultan bajo todas las máscaras:
Intentan enfrentar a internacionales contra internacionales,
internacionales contra españoles,
reclutas contra antiguos combatientes, militantes de un partido contra militantes de otro.

Aislemos, eliminemos de nuestras filas a los que intentan la división.

Reforcemos cada vez más los lazos de la solidaridad y de la fraternidad entre todos los combatientes.



GIRLS MAKING MUNITIONS in one of our war factories. By doing so they know they are contributing toward the final victory of our cause

LETTERS FROM HOME

Friends of Mac-Paps
Write to « Volunteer »

Editor, The Volunteer
Dear Friend:

Thank you for letter acknowledging ours addressed to all the Canadian volunteers in Spain. We are very glad that it was printed in The Volunteer for Liberty. We are now receiving copies of The Volunteer at more or less regular intervals and we are exceedingly glad to get it as it helps to keep us in touch with the boys in Spain...

We have, as you doubtless already know, wound up a very successful drive for a Christmas fund in which our objective was fulfilled 150 per cent. As a result a large shipment of warm clothing and Christmas cheer was sent to our Canadian boys...

Our best wishes and salud!

BEATRICE COLLE

Secretary, Friends of
the Mackenzie-Papineau
Battalion

« A Breath of Spain
Into This Town... »

Dear B....

I received your letter this week, also the posters and cards. I am naturally happy to hear from you, and especially happy to get the swell posters. It brings a breath of Spain into this town....

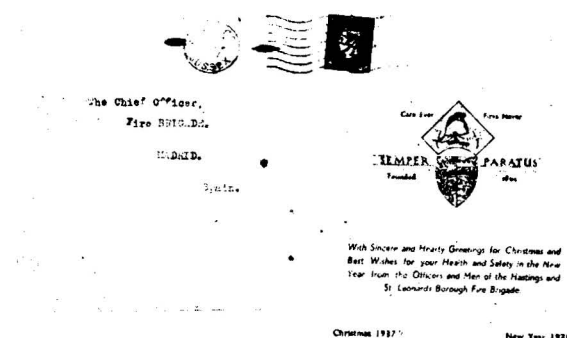
I have featured the Spanish war frequently in the magazine (The New Pioneer, youth publication). I ran a center spread once, pictures mostly, and a letter from a high school student in Spain. (Incidentally, I hear that the 15th Brigade has as its patron organization the Federation of University Students in Madrid. Right?) You will find stories about Spain as well as what the kids here are doing about collecting money in all recent issues.

I am offering the posters you

¡ Jefes, comisarios y soldados del Ejército Popular! : Todos los españoles se esfuerzan por superarse. Superaos también vosotros. Ni un palmo de tierra al extranjero. Con disciplina rigida, con capacitación concienzuda, con heroismo inabastable, haced de nuestro Ejército el Ejército victorioso de una España independiente, libre y feliz. »

DR. JUAN NEGRÍN

GREETING FROM ENGLISH FIRE BRIGADE



SOLIDARITY among fire fighters. The Christmas card reproduced above was sent to the heroic and hard-working firemen of Madrid by the Fire Brigade of the Hastings and St. Leonards Borough, Sussex, England.

sent me as prizes to the branch which sends in the highest donation for the month. A poster each month. I might try the same with the books you sent. I'm still trying to get someone to translate them.

It is not easy to find a good translator. The Spanish-speaking comrades here have their hands full. I guess I'll have to wait until some of the Americans get back. If you don't know Spanish after more

AMERICAN VOLUNTEERS CITED IN "HONOR ROLL FOR 1937"

Three citations to Americans who are working or have worked in Loyalist Spain are included in «The Nation's Honor Roll for 1937», a copy of which has just reached The Volunteer. This magazine has for the past ten years chosen those Americans who, in the editors' opinion, have distinguished themselves « as individuals or as groups » and therefore « deserve the applause of their countrymen ». The citations follow:

« **MEMBERS OF THE LINCOLN AND WASHINGTON BATTALIONS**, living and dead, who have fought in the International Brigade in Loyalist Spain for the defense of the cultural heritage common to all democratic peoples. »

« **HERBERT L. MATTHEWS** of The New York Times and **JAMES M. MINIFIE** of The New York Herald Tribune, for the sustained quality of their correspondence on the Spanish Civil War. »

« **JORIS IJENS** and his associates, for filming and producing « Spanish Earth ». »

The first citation, we are sure, is meant for all Americans who have come to Spain, not only those in the Lincoln-Washington. At home it is not widely known that Americans are scattered over many units throughout Spain. It is not known that there were many Americans in the 20th Battalion of the 86th Brigade, which for more

than seven months held the lines on the Southern, Cordoba front. Nor is it common knowledge that we have our men in the American Artillery Battery, in another artillery battery in training, in anti-air batteries, in the hard-working 1st Regiment de Tren, in auto-parks throughout the land as well as in dozens of other services. And the Americans in the Mackenzie-Papineau Battalion needn't feel they have been overlooked; they too are included. It all boils itself down to the simple fact that our friends at home, for the sake of simplicity (and also because they are not so closely confronted with the complexities of war time activities) look upon all Americans in Spain as Lincoln-Washingtons.

About the men named in these three citations The Nation says:

« In a world in which courage is at a premium they have been courageous; they have been intelligent when intelligence was sorely needed; in public affairs, journalism, or the arts they have made a contribution, by a particular act or by their general behavior, which is worthy of honorable notice. »

Soldados: Cuidad constantemente vuestras armas. Ellas son la garantía de la victoria y la garantía de vuestra propia seguridad.

than a year in Spain, you're n.g.!

I would appreciate stories and poems about Spain for the New Pioneer, written specially with an eye toward the youngsters reading them. Will you tell the fellows about this? In addition to printing these things in the magazine, we could offer the original manuscript as a prize. Generally the effect would be to raise more dough for Spain...

How are Abe H. and Bob S. and the others? Tell them all to write. We here are actually systematizing our letter-writing to you guys in Spain from now on, and anyone who fails to write is going to get his pants kicked... In the meantime, Salud, and you'll be hearing from me regularly.

For victory of the Peoples Front,
PHIL

(For those who are interested, the material mentioned in the above letter is wanted by the New Pioneer, 80 Fifth Avenue, Room 1203, New York, N. Y.)

..... después de haber visto la capacidad de nuestro Ejército, sospechando exactamente las disponibilidades del enemigo, pero teniendo también en cuenta la cantera inagotable de energías que constituye nuestro pueblo, yo os puedo decir, sin miedo a equivocarme: Triunfaremos.

DR. JUAN NEGRÍN

Chinese Youth Mobilized Against Japan Invasion

The mobilization of the Chinese masses against the fascist invaders is well illustrated in the following item:

«The struggle for China's national liberation is drawing in the broad masses of the Chinese people. In the Kwang-si Province alone, a million young Chinese have been mobilized for the struggle against the Japanese invaders. Already 300,000 have been sent to the fronts and the remaining 700,000 are receiving military training and are prepared to leave at any moment. The women are also acquiring military training and are forming women's detachments.»

177 Prominent Americans Protest Franco's Crimes

A petition signed by 477 representatives of the religious, cultural and artistic life of the U. S. A. has been presented to President Roosevelt, asking him to protest against the bombing of the civil population in Spain. Eight bishops and a number of University presidents are among the signers.



The VOLUNTEER FOR LIBERTY

organ of the international brigades



Vol. II - No. 8

Barcelona, March 7 - 1938

THE FIFTEENTH BRIGADE IN ACTION

During the recent actions of the 15th International Brigade I was on an Army Corps Staff for a short time. I had heard of the 15th Brigade, but I had never known it closely. In the course of the actions I am about to tell, I became intimately acquainted with this fine Brigade.

We are assigned to perform military operations in the sector X... A few hours before the operations are scheduled to begin, I take part in a Brigade Staff meeting. The Commissar reports. He speaks briefly, and every word he utters is full of confidence and responsibility. He says: "The battalions are prepared for battle. The officers and commissars are talking to the soldiers. Our comrades are anxious and ready to obey the orders of their superiors, in whom they have complete confidence. All services are fully prepared. First Aid and Medical Services are supplied sufficiently with the necessary equipment and men. We shall work well."

At night the Brigade moves into action. In the darkness the men advance a few kilometers toward the enemy position. They crawl all night. Before the break of day, the soldiers of the Mackenzie-Papineau Battalion are the first to begin operations. They charge the fascist trenches like a stroke of lightning. The enemy, surprised, surrenders immediately. At dawn the banner of the Mackenzie-Papineau Battalion is seen waving on the crest of the newly-conquered hill.

The Lincoln Battalion is assigned to storm a virtual fortress, also situated on a hill. It is important to capture that hill to insure the advance of our brigades. The men of the Lincoln proceed to carry on their mission.

I witness the entire operation. By lunch time our artillery lays down a heavy barrage. The fascists respond to our guns. Then the music of the trench mortars begins. When the guns are once again silent, the Lincolns resume

By WLADYSLAW STOPCZYK
War Commissar of the 45th Division

infiltrating toward the enemy. Carefully and courageously they advance. From our dugout we view the scene of battle as clearly as one sees the palm of the hand. We see the movements of each soldier and we confess it to be one of the rarest scenes of the war.

The mastery with which the Battalion carries on the battle shows that each soldier knows what he is doing. Each knows how to take advantage of each stone, bush, tree stem and declivity in the ground. The Battalion Commander directs brilliantly. Both the

officers and men demonstrate a superb mastery of military technique.

It takes one and a half hours to accomplish their operations. They act with audacity and skill. After nearing the enemy positions they begin to encircle them. They get close enough to be able to throw hand grenades into the enemy trenches. The enemy opens fire. The attackers take advantage of the ground so well and skillfully that even though they throw grenades into the enemy positions, the enemy cannot see who is doing it. This demoralizes the enemy; they are baffled.

An unforgettable scene follows. In spite of a heavy machine gun fire, a few comrades on their own volition dash out and cut the barbed wire. This is done to facilitate the final attack by the battalion on the fascist forces. From the left flank a group of volunteers rush through the barbed wire and hurl hand grenades. A group behind do not allow the enemy to retreat. In this manner the enemy is confused and surrounded by an unbreakable iron ring of the steeled Lincoln Battalion. When the shock soldiers finish their work of demoralizing the enemy, the final and decisive charge is made. With a shout of victory our boys plunge swiftly and drop into the fascist trenches and force the enemy to surrender.

On the top of Mountain X... the proud banner of the Lincoln Battalion of the 15th International Brigade is raised.

Important lessons can be learned from the whole battle. It shows us how we can carry on our future battles against the fascist forces and beat them with the minimum of losses for us (The Battalion had only four wounded. It captured more than 100 fascists, among whom were a few officers). It shows that by employing a good organized plan of attack and defence we can insure victory and at the same time spare the lives of many of our comrades.



FASCIST CRUISER SUNK BY REPUBLICAN FLEET. The "Balears", 10,000 ton rebel cruiser, smoking and wallowing hopelessly after being hit by torpedoes from Republican destroyers in the biggest naval encounter since the World War. The "Balears" was with the rebel fleet, "Canarias" and the "Almirante Cervera", and was sunk 70 miles from Cape Palos after a big battle that took place early Sunday morning, March 6. (Read the complete story in our next issue.)



WLADYSLAW STOPCZYK
Commissar of the 45th Division,
whose account of our Brigade
appears on page 1.

Americans Donate Auto-chir to Spain

A new mobile operating theatre (auto-chir), donated to the Spanish Government by the American people, has been turned over to the General Inspection of the Medical Service of the Army in Barcelona. Other auto-chirs have previously been given to Spain through the American Medical Committee to Aid Spanish Democracy.

The auto-chir was officially presented by Doctor Irving Busch and Dr. Edward K. Barsky, co-commanders of the American medical units in Spain, to Sr. Fernández Bolaños, Under-Secretary of the Ministry of National Defense.

Don Luis Companys, President of the Generalidad of Catalonia

Señor Companys was born in the village of Tarrós, Province of Lérida. He studied law at the University of Barcelona where he obtained his degree at a very early age.

As a student he founded the Unión Escolar Republicana (Republican Students' Union), an organization with a left-wing tendency which played a considerable part in establishing a new spirit and a new orientation in the centers of higher education.

He was editor of «La Lucha» (The Fight), a Republican newspaper. Through this instrument Companys, together with Layret, Marcelino Domingo and other politicians and writers carried out important work.

He was Republican deputy for Sabadell in various legislatures and in this capacity always showed his love for the Republic and his admiration for the ideals of freedom and justice.

Before the Dictatorship he founded the Unión de Rehabasaires (Peasant's Trade Union) which is today one of the most important peasant organizations in Spain and which is fighting with great enthusiasm for the rights of the workers of the land.

As a result of all these activities he was persecuted by the Dictatorship and imprisoned on several occasions.



When the second dictator (Bereguener) fell, Companys was in prison in the Castle of La Mola, having been condemned for his Republican ideas.

Together with Col. Macia he called a meeting of the Asamblea de Izquierdas (Left Assembly) in March 1931 and founded the Left Republican Party of Catalonia. This Party presented its candidature in the civic elections of April 14 and Companys was elected councillor for Barcelona.

He was named Mayor of Barcelona and that very day, April 14, at 1:25 p. m., he proclaimed the Republic in Catalonia. On April 15 he was made Civil Governor of Barcelona, giving up the post of Mayor.

In the general election for the Cortes Constituyentes he was elected by a large majority and was appointed leader of the Catalan group in parliament, composed of all parties and numbering 52 deputies. Later he became President of the Catalan Left Group.

In the Cortes he strongly advocated the granting of autonomy to Catalonia and the passing of the Statute to this effect, always, however, bearing in mind constitutional precepts.

Later he became a deputy in the Catalan Parliament, of which he was elected the first President.

In 1933 he became Minister of Marine and after Macia's death was elected President of the Generalitat (Government) of Catalonia. This was in January 1934. As a result of the revolt of October 6, 1934, he was again imprisoned until February 1936, when he was reinstated as President of the Generalitat by the Popular Front. He has held this post ever since and is respected not only by the whole Catalan people but by everyone in the Spanish Republic.

Bill's Method of Learning the Language

You hear some fellows say that they can't sit down and learn the Spanish language, it's too difficult, and they gave up doing that sort of thing when they left school. What I say to them is, they're learning a new profession, most of them from the start, so what's

the difference? The language isn't so difficult to pick up. That's what Bill and I found.

I dare say Bill speaks a bit better than I do. He never felt shy of trying. He'd go blundering on with what words he knew, and didn't care who laughed.

When he saw something written up, he'd have a guess at it. The first time we came down in the train, we were pulling into a station when we saw a board up that said «Silbar». I asked Bill what he thought it meant and he said it would be the name of the town.

Next stop, same thing. Bill reckoned one would be Upper Silbar and the other Lower Silbar, like at home. When we got to a third town and it was still called the same, I said we seemed to be dragging this town Silbar along with us. So Bill got busy, and in the end he found the word meant «Whistle».

Same way, when we were travelling on the road, Bill always looked round for what he could see. On the way up to Aragon we stopped beside what appeared to be a pub called «Posada Carmen».

«Pub's what it is», Bill said. «Posada», that means Good pull up for».

Well, he hit it lucky, as it means «lodging house», which is roughly the same. What he didn't know was that «Carmen» doesn't mean «carmen», it's just a fancy name.

He'd got an idea for this «Ulloa Optico», that you see along the roads. He said, translated literally it meant «the Hullo Eye», which would be the Spanish way of saying «the Come-Hither Look». And what was the good of that, I said, seeing that most times it was painted on the wall of an empty barn? Anyway, it turned out to be an optician's advertisement.

When Bill and I were in training, you could still buy cigarettes, if you hit a lucky day. If there weren't any, they'd hang a notice on the door. «No hay tabaco» was their way of putting it. I remember the first time Bill saw that.

«Who cares?» he said. «No one wants to smoke hay».

All that was old days. It didn't take us long to find out what «No hay» meant. We learned that next

after «Mucho bueno» and «Mucho malo».

Now, being old hands, we say «Muy» instead of «Mucho», having found out that's right. But the Spaniards say «Mucho bueno» to us, I reckon because it sounds funny and makes them laugh.

K. M.





Tom Mann Greets British Fighters

«The glorious work you have done and are doing» is mentioned with pride by Tom Mann, veteran British working class leader, in a letter written to the British volunteers in the International Brigade. The entire letter, dated February 19, follows:

«My dear comrades of the British Section of the International Brigade: My heartiest greetings to you, and again my very heartiest greetings and congratulations to you for the glorious work you have done and are doing.

«I should love to go to see you, and when I learn of the experiences of others who have visited you and fraternised with you, I certainly wish I could also meet you and shake you by the hand and embrace you; I am in good physical health and am able to get about to meetings, but my knees are affected by arthritis, which makes me slow in doing stairs, and having synovitis also I am liable to a sudden pull up, and that would make me a nuisance if I attempted to visit you. So I must be content to talk about you here and do what I can to help in the various methods open to such as me.

«I am sure you will accept our love and good wishes and be fully assured of our very genuine concern in all your doings, and honest endeavours to make things as comfortable as possible for you and yours.

«Comrade Harry Pollitt, as you know, is spreading information about you far and wide, and many of the others are also doing well in this regard. Professor Haldane and Charlotte his wife are also constantly at work in spreading inside information and in stoking up to activity those who otherwise might be laggardly.

«Again let me say I have the privilege of still doing a bit at meetings and in various ways, and count it an honour. In April I shall be eighty-two, so I have had a very fair innings, and must not be too disappointed if Daddy Time makes a call.

«Best love to you Comrades all,
«Yours in the Cause,

Tom Mann.»

El discurso del Jefe del Gobierno ha conmovido al pueblo español. Quizá fuera injusto hacer en este caso una distinción entre el pueblo español libre y el prisionero de Franco, y por eso no la hacemos. El dolor de la guerra es uno en las dos zonas y una debe de ser la emoción de la verdad. Hasta es presumible que el roce humillante con los invasores y los insurrectos disponga mejor que la convivencia en el territorio republicano, para exprimir y saborear la savia de las palabras del señor Negrín. Es fácil apreciar la reacción que el discurso ha determinado en las distintas parcelas de la opinión pública. Los trabajadores, parte principalísima de la resistencia republicana, se han sentido claramente aludidos. De cara al problema de la producción de guerra, que es la mitad justamente del problema militar, el Presidente del Consejo ha destacado el derecho que los combatientes tienen a que se les cubra rápidamente el déficit de armamentos. Ello equivale a confrontar dos deberes, el del que da su sangre y el del que rinde su esfuerzo manual, y al prometerles el jefe del Gobierno a los soldados que tendrían pronto el material que precisan, es que confiaba virtualmente en los trabajadores. Esta confianza no tolera objeciones. Es impropio del señor Negrín fantasear, y cuando transfiere a la industria de guerra el remedio que la situación demanda, podemos estar seguros de que por un procedimiento u otro realizará sus previsiones. El Gobierno cree, y con el Gobierno el pueblo español, que de aquí en adelante no puede prosperar ninguna actitud que le dé de lado a la guerra. Nada, absolutamente nada, tiene fuerza hoy para regatear la ayuda que exige la patria en peligro. Si la democracia con su régimen de libertad individual fudara, el instinto popular acabaría confirmando poderes rígidos. En efecto, una nación en pie de guerra no debe distinguir entre la responsabilidad del soldado y la responsabilidad del ciudadano, sea cual fuere su función. El supuesto de que la prestación de la vida sea más obligatoria que la prestación de unas horas de trabajo, va pareciendo a todo el mundo una repugnante deslealtad, y faltaría a su deber el Gobierno que la tolerase. Adelantándose a la declaración del Presidente del Consejo, los Partidos y Organizaciones obreras han demostrado que en su ánimo está hacer suya aquella tesis de severa disciplina. Buenaventura Durruti pronunció en Madrid unas nobles palabras, a las que los acontecimientos devuelven actualidad: «Yo renuncio a todo, menos a la victoria.» El esforzado luchador comprendía que renunciando a la victoria el proletariado renunciaba a todo, a la vida y al honor revolucionario. No era, pues, excesivo el sacrificio que se recomendaba a sí mismo.

Juzgamos haber definido la reacción mental de la clase productora, ante el discurso del señor Negrín. Resbalaban en el equivoco los que



hicieran otras deducciones. El ciclo de organización ciudadana para la guerra prosigue. El deber capital ahora, cada día más robusto, sobre los deberes secundarios. Venice la libertad racional a la libertad arbitraria. Las minorías propensas al desconsuelo, por tener la fe enteca y el egoísmo orondo, han sentido con el discurso suscitados sus remordimientos, y hoy reconocen que la voz del señor Negrín es la auténtica voz de la patria. No han dejado, tampoco, los intelectuales, de experimentar la fuerte corriente moral del ilustre hombre de Estado, y un documento, precioso por el texto y por las firmas, avisa que los doctos y los artistas

ven incluida en la política del señor Negrín la causa universal de la cultura.

Fuera de España sin duda alcanzará el discurso hondas resonancias. Palabra por palabra, en la dicción y en el espíritu, lo que ha dicho el señor Negrín es en cierto modo una réplica a lo que ha dicho Hitler. Europa ha tenido quien, enuncie la doctrina de la agresión, pero también quien diga cuál debe ser la conducta de los pueblos que no se resignan a ser colonizados por el fascismo. La República española echa mano de la moral que guarda en sus arcaes el viejo y duro pueblo, y con ella se promete triunfar. La consigna a las naciones vacilantes es bien clara: contra los grandes aventureros internacionales sólo existe una fórmula: querer luchar. Finalmente, formando cadencia, más bien tenue, con las prescripciones de nuestro Primer Ministro, la Cámara de los Diputados francesa ha contribuido a resucitar la creencia de que la democracia y la cultura no están desamparadas. Los señores Chaumetemps y Delbos, oficialmente, han repetido que Francia no es indiferente a la independencia de España. Este sentimiento de amistad encuentra base sólida en el hecho de que la República española, por boca de su Gobierno, renueva su vocación de pueblo libre y su empeño de mantenerla desesparadamente, hasta el último hombre y el último cartucho.

THE VOLUNTEER FOR LIBERTY

The VOLUNTEER for LIBERTY

ORGAN OF
THE VETERANS OF THE INTERNATIONAL BRIGADES
(AMERICAN CHAPTER)

We dedicate this first issue of the VOLUNTEER FOR LIBERTY to the memory of our fellow Americans who gave up their lives in Spain.

These men were brave, though they disliked being told so. Their embarrassment before extravagant praise--an embarrassment which we all shared--arose from their realization that courage is not something which is known only in Spain or which rises miraculously only in the presence of death. It must not be, it can not be divorced from the complex texture of character, growing through natural development and built solidly on experience. Most of these men learned lessons of devotion and self-sacrifice in the labor movement in America. Their going to Spain, was merely a logical extension of their actions here. They themselves saw nothing sudden or startling or surprising in all this.

We are proud to do honor to these our friends and companions, with whom we marched and beside whom we fought.

GREETINGS TO OUR NAMESAKE! We reproduce the masthead and leading editorial from the organ of the Veterans of the I. B. Everyone will agree when we wish this new paper a longer life than our own Volunteer hopes for

CANADIANS IN SPAIN

Since the first volunteers from the North American continent arrived here more than fourteen months ago, Canada has sent more than 1,000 young men to Spain. Canada, a country with a population of 13,000,000, can certainly be proud of this living, fighting fact — its contribution to the struggle of world democracy against fas-



cism, its contribution to the fight of the people of Spain.

The people of Canada, who slumbered peacefully for a long time under the illusion that fascism would never become a major threat to the rights of democratic countries, were abruptly awakened to reality by the news flashes of July 19, 1936. Those events are many times over twice-told tales — too well known to be repeated now. Suffice it to say that the people of Canada made their feelings known in no uncertain terms. Throughout the Dominion, Committees to Aid Spanish Democracy were formed. In September, 1936, the official voice of Canadian labor went on record as fully supporting the Spanish Government, while the great masses of unemployed in the large Canadian cities demanded that the King government send them to Spain.

DIFFICULTIES OVERCOME

Such a demand was not approved by the King government, which immediately took steps to hinder the development of Canadian support to Spain. Passports were made extremely difficult to obtain. A law was passed penalizing Canadian citizens who fought in foreign wars. Intimidation of

individuals was carried to the limit by the Federal police.

None of these things, however, could break the determination of thousands of anti-fascists who intended to come to the aid of their Spanish brothers, whatever the costs. Stimulated by the news of the first International columns fighting in the defense of Madrid, the first Canadian volunteers left for Spain in December, 1936, at about the same time that the first volunteers from the United States were leaving. At first they came in small, inconspicuous groups, arriving at the training base in the early days of January, 1937. The first group came from the city of Toronto. Among them were Thomas Becket, who was captured at Jarama when the truck in which he was riding drove into fascist lines, and Frederick Lackey, who was killed during the attack of February 27. Lawrence (Larry) Ryan, who was wounded on the same day, is now in a Canadian sanitarium recovering from tuberculosis contracted while fighting here in Spain.

SECOND GROUP ARRIVES

On February 9, nine more Canadians arrived. Of these, Joe Campbell, French Canadian from Montreal, was killed on February 27; and Sergeant Jack Steele was sent to the Officers School from the Jarama front because of his good work in the lines. He commanded a machine-gun section in the Lincoln Battalion during the Brunete offensive of last July. Today he is back in Canada, heading the rehabilitation work for returning Spanish war veterans. Arthur Morris, a member of the James Connolly section of the Lincoln Battalion, was killed on the 27th while attempting to bring in a wounded comrade. He was killed, but his memory lives on, as do the memories of other fine comrades such as Adrian Van der Brugge, Elias Avieser, George Leskowsky, A. M. Garcia, Fred

Lackey, Liege Claire and Francis Morin. These were our dead.

Among those who came through the battles at Jarama as well as Brunete were Izzie Kupchik, Mike Kushmi, Lucien Lattilupe, Mike Zagar, Harvey Hall, Bedard, Porier, Roger Biladcau, Walter Marinuk, Thomas Russell, Pat Stevens, Martin Trier, James Dames and Wally Dent. The last two named were wounded at Jarama. Good fighters, every single one, French Canadians, English Canadians, Slavics. Canadians. Industrial workers and unemployed youths, men of all professions, who joined the Lincoln Battalion and fought side by side with their American brothers, side by side with the whole Spanish people, against the mercenaries and dupes of Franco and international fascism.

The training base for the English-speaking volunteers was transferred to another town, from which the first group of trained Canadians left for the front. They



were the major part of a section of forty men selected from the «recruit battalion» to act as replacements for the Lincoln's. Placed under the command of Joe Armitage, they left by trucks for the Jarama front on April 17. After a long tiresome journey, they arrived at 15th Brigade Headquarters, where they were met by Lt. Col. Claus, who made a short speech. From there they marched to the Battalion kitchen, where they had a good feed. Captain Marty Hourihan, Commander of the Lincoln Battalion, gave them a short talk on what was expected of them, then placed them in charge of Lieutenant Paul Burns, who marched them up to the Jarama front. The various company commanders and section leaders met them, and they were distributed where they were most needed.

On May 19, one of the Canadians among these forty, Bob Kerr, Commissar of one of the sections, was taken out of the lines and assigned to the Base as representative of all the Canadians in Spain. His main purpose was to give all necessary assistance in



MAJOR ED CECIL SMITH, Commander of the Mac-Paps, in a photo taken shortly before he won his new rank.

the formation of the Mackenzie-Papineau Battalion.

The Lincoln still needed replacements to reach full battalion strength. From the ranks of the Washington Battalion, a new American unit in training, forty Canadians were selected to join the Lincoln. This second section of forty, commanded by Paddy O'Neil, moved up on the evening of June 13, together with the Washington Battalion. They arrived at a town 15 kilometers from the Jarama front, and there they were quartered. The following afternoon the Canadian section was assigned to the ranks of the Lincoln.

There were many notable young lads among these forty who were killed on July 6, the first day of Brunete, their first battle: Jimmie Kane of Toronto, an active member of the Longshoremen's Union; Paddy O'Neill, section leader of the Canadians, lumber worker and World War Veteran, who was killed because he refused to leave his men but continued to advance even after he had been wounded; John Oscar Bloom of Edmonton, 22 years old; Bryce Colman and Joe Armitage, men who were loved not only by their comrades-in-arms but also by the civilian population of the town where the battalion had spent many weeks.

CANADIANS AT BRUNETE

During those twenty bitter days of fighting on the Brunete front, the people of Canada lost a number of brave fighters. John Deck, Canadian seaman, chief scout of the Lincoln Battalion, and Nick Harboecian, young member of the Cooperative Commonwealth Youth movement, who had



BRIGADE ENTERTAINS a visitor: the men listening to Earl Browder during his recent visit to Spain.

graduated from the officers school and joined the Lincoln on July 7 - both were killed in the attack of the 9th. Gabor Genei, Canadian Hungarian, was killed by machine gun fire on July 17, while digging an advance post for a light machine gun.

It does not suffice to enumerate those who are gone, without mentioning the fine work of those who are still with us: Christie, and Pop Brown, Canadian section commissar, who saw to it that the boys got their share of the food and rations; Bill Wilson, who would go through shellfire, blistering heat, with very little water to drink and an occasional aviation bombardment every mealtime, just to bring the boys their mail from the folks back home; Pete Neilson, a group leader in the Canadian section who is now a lieutenant in the Lincoln-Washington; George Cunningham, one of the first forty to join the Lincoln, who became a company commissar in the British Battalion; Tommy Lyons, one of the first Canadians to come to Spain, who was through the Jarama battles as well as Brunete and Aragon, who was made a lieutenant in the British Battalion. Space does not permit the mention of many others, equally deserving of mention.

MAC-PAPS IN ACTION

There were Canadians in the Washington Battalion from the beginning of the Brunete offensive who proved to be worthy representatives of their country. Ed Cecil Smith was a company commander in the Washington and was wounded leading his men into action on July 6. Later, after the attack at Fuentes de Ebro on October 13, he became Commander of the MacKenzie-Papineau Battalion. Still later, he won the rank of Major on the field of battle at Teruel. Allick Miller, war veteran, was a lieutenant in the Washington. He was wounded at Quinto. Young Charlie Bartollata, 19-year-old red-headed lad from Toronto, who was wounded in the leg following Harry Hynes up Mosquito Ridge.

This account is but a beginning. It includes little of the record of the MacKenzie-Papineau Battalion up to the present, nor does it exhaust the record of the Canadians who served in other units, both before and since the Mac-Paps came into being. But it does give an indication of the Canadians' role in Spain and it points the way to the raw material out of which a real history of Canadians in Spain will some day, I am sure, be written.

B. B.

American Seamen Raise Funds for Battalion



HELP FROM HOME, in the form of the above dollar certificate, comes naturally enough from the National Maritime Union, many of whose best members have enrolled in the fight against fascism here. The money collected will reach the Lincoln-Washington in the form of clothes, provisions and (it's hoped) cigarets and tobacco

MATTHEWS WRITES ON MAC-PAPS

The following story is a section of a wireless dispatch to The New York Times by Herbert L. Matthews. Although it is more than a month old (dated January 20), we are reprinting it because of its obvious interest to our comrades in the 15th Brigade:

The story of stories here now is how the «Mac-Pap» Battalion threw back a cavalry charge on Jan. 17, although it was almost surrounded. (The cavalry had been previously described as Moors.) The defenders had a position on a hill that dipped down to the right

and rose to another hill, which the British Battalion occupied. Captain Cecil Smith the Canadian commander of the «Mac-Pap» and his staff were in the back part of their hill, protected by the Third Company under Ricardo Diaz.

The position was important and the Rebel command had worked out a daring plan to capture it by means of a cavalry charge. This is ordinarily a rare tactic, but in an open battle like this mounted troops have their value.

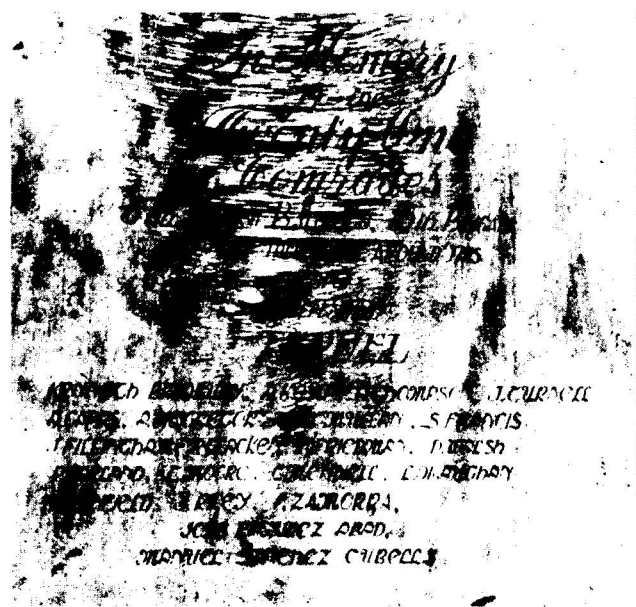
The Insurgents swept, under their artillery barrage, between the two hills, moving so quickly that there was no stopping them. Then they wheeled toward the right and charged straight at Captain Smith and his staff. That was the critical moment, for if the staff partly broke or was overrun the entire battalion might well have been captured.

There were three machine guns protecting the staff. Captain Smith had them brought up quickly, and they let go at a murderously short distance. Diaz's company held firm and poured rifle fire into the enemy. The Rebel column wavered, then broke and fell back.

In returning it had to pass between the inflaming fire of the «Mac-Pap» and the British, who had coolly held their position throughout. I was told that a good deal less than half of that cavalry force got back into its line. Against soldiers with modern arms who refuse to run cavalry cannot be effective.

General Walter, the division chief, and Colonel Modesto, the commander, were so satisfied with the showing of the «Mac-Pap» that the next day Captain Smith was made a Major and Diaz was made a Captain, while the battalion heard high words of praise. So I not only found the brigade intact this morning, but rather pleased with itself in a modest way.

MEMORIAL TO BRITISH DEAD



THIS MEMORIAL to the twenty-one comrades of the 57th (British) Battalion of the Fifteenth Brigade was planted on a high hill overlooking Teruel. Delegations representing the four companies of the Battalion attended the silent ceremony in the lead of night—silent because any sound would have drawn the immediate fire of the enemy



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THE IMPORTANCE OF JOHN DOE

John Doe is an ancient fiction. When the man in the street needs a name, this is what he is issued with. No man of flesh and blood bears it, or if he does, it was his parents' error. For public purposes there is no such individual. He was invented to make life easier for English-speaking people. A volunteer of the Fifteenth Brigade found him on the postal regulations, and for the next few minutes his life became harder.

The volunteer discovered that he was instructed, when addressing his home letters, to follow the example given, which had John Doe fitted out with a handsome sounding apartment. He took this literally and was upset.

He wanted to know who this guy Doe was, and why letters had to be addressed to him. It particularly worried him to think that his private letters were to be opened and read by someone back in his country of whom he had never even heard. Such is fame, even for an ancient fiction.

The answer, so far as the volunteer is concerned, is that this time there is nothing in a name. It would be more than unfortunate if such an accident were to discourage him from keeping in touch with the people at home. For an International volunteer, it amounts to a duty. It is a temptation to scout this obligation, on the grounds that soldier's duty is heavy enough without it. To put it bluntly, most men who do not write home avoid it because they dislike it. There is always time to write during periods of rest or reserve.

The feelings of friends and relatives are worth a moment's thought for their own sake, but that is a man's own affair. There is a far more important reason why letters should be written. People at home read the bare outline of our news in their journals. They cannot catch from the newspapers the real feeling of the men themselves, or the spirit by which our army grows; and this is ultimately our strongest weapon. Only personal messages can fully convey this feeling.

One letter from a soldier is worth a headline in bold type, half an inch deep. It has a truer ring. When such letters get home, they are passed on, quoted, read out at meetings, and everybody listens to them. Our friends at home depend on us. If they know we have a good spirit, they will catch it. In turn, the spirit they show will affect the policy of their governments and therefore, in the end our letters are ammunition for our own guns.

Just now, we want all the ammunition of this kind that we can get. Recent events have given everybody a sharp awakening. This is the moment to put over a big barrage and keep them awake. It is to be hoped that volunteers will remember this, and when they are not in action will use their time to advantage by telling the world that they are very much alive.

To volunteer for service in Spain is in itself effective propaganda, especially among acquaintances whose convictions are not very strong. Personal contact with the war sets them thinking, and often talking. If a volunteer can bring himself to write to these more distant sympathisers as well as to the circle of his closer friends, he will be following up the work already well begun and spreading propaganda where it is needed. He can probably remember certain friends who have no convictions at all. Far from neglecting them, he should do his best to fill the vacuum. Letters from men in the fighting line, whatever the war, are read with more interest and attention than is given to casual correspondence.

IN THE FASCIST ZONE

Reports continue to seep out of Gibraltar about shiploads of Italian infantrymen docking across the bay. Ditto with the German « technicians » on the northern seaboard of Spain. Whenever Hitler or Mussolini shoots his mouth off about withdrawal of troops and « regulation » of foreign combatants, it means there are a couple of thousand new guns shooting dum-dums in Spain. Or a new squadron of planes bombing the kids playing soldiers in the streets of Barcelona, Valencia, Tarragona, Lérida... Continuing with Gibraltar: last week we spoke of the artillerymen deserting to the Rock from fascist-held southern Spain. It's driving de Llano's yes-men nuts. Because of it they have been forced to station a large detachment of cavalry in the area between Spain and Gibraltar. And shore watchmen are equipped with machine guns. In addition all the territory between Tarifa, Algeciras and La Línea now is unwilling host to battalions of border guards (removed from front duty to stop the leakage), under orders to open up on any boats or men sighted attempting to escape. Meanwhile, Yes-Man-in-Chief de Llano is belching more quietly these days, and not in public anymore. It seems de Llano's boss, Franco, got orders from his bosses in Rome and Berlin to make the Seville donkey stop braying...

Last week we referred to a Berlin dispatch about the sad state of the Nazi cinema. Here's an additional quote: « The German desire to cooperate with Italy and Japan has been checked by the technical inferiority of Italian and Japanese films and the resultant impossibility of forcing the German public to attend theatres where they are showing. » Movie celluloid seems to be the only highly-inflammable material that won't do its stuff for the fascists... There's a guy in the machine gun company of the Lincoln-Washingtons who says the hell with all this stuff about the fascist zone. He's got his fists ready for a guy back in the States. « I once thought he was a pal », says this anonymous American, « but he's turned out to be a dirty fascist provocateur. He keeps sending me clippings of restaurant ads that read like this: « Whether you say Po'k, Pork or Porrrk, you'll enjoy this good he-man dish that starts lips a-smacking' — Grilled fresh pork chop, grilled to a crispy brown outside —

juicy and tender within — made with Sauce Diable and flanked with a generous serving of... We'd better stop right now, before somebody else gets sore... But that « crispy brown outside » is reminiscent of an old crack about the Nazis. If you don't know it, ask your Cabo...

A glimpse of what life in fascist-hed Spain is like is contained in the following extracts from an account of one who has lived in Galicia, in the Province of Pontevedra, on the eastern coast of Spain, just north of Portugal: « The war atmosphere is noticeable by the martial noise made by the phalangists and « civil guard gentlemen ». The soldiers are carefully kept separated from the civilian population. Besides, it is difficult to make out which are the Spanish soldiers and which are the foreigners. At the beginning the phalangists deliberately wore the uniform of the regular Spanish soldier, whereas the soldiers went around in mufti or were given Portuguese uniforms. One was not permitted to say that they were Portuguese uniforms, nor were the people allowed to go near the soldiers to determine whether they were Spanish or Portuguese.

« The German soldiers generally wore civilian clothes, but Spanish artillerymen wore uniforms made of the brown German cloth. The Germans were intended to pass unnoticed. It was a crime to pronounce a German name, so much so that they were never referred to as « Germans » but « individuals ». When the papers published anything about the Germans or when they officially referred to them, they merely said « Three individuals arrived » or « The individuals who are staying at the Hotel X... » This was enough. Everyone understood.

« The docks of Vigo were last summer exclusively controlled by « the individuals ». They were in charge of unloading all the war material which came from Hamburg, and knocked-down planes which came escorted by their personnel. The trains came right up to the pier to load, and then the war material was transported to the bases of the « Nationalist » army. The Germans were at all times extremely discreet about their movements, and they tried to hide themselves from the Spanish people like real criminals. Italians were (and are) in — Galicia too. But we'll save the account of their antics for the next issue.



THE ESTIMATE OF THE SITUATION

In every-day life, in almost every action of the individual and collective body, certain definite questions arise in a definite sequence. These questions have to be answered, even if not consciously, and they are what, why, where, how and when. Just as in every other phase of life, so in military operations, large and small, these same questions must be answered before a decision can be reached on which to base any military plan of operation. The answering of these questions, in other words the analysis that is required, is called the estimate of the situation. It is made, not only by commanders of large units who have to actually write their analyses down to entirely assimilate them, but they are also made by subordinate commanders and even individual soldiers.

PLAN BASIS OF ACTION

The content of the estimate of the situation falls into a certain formula. The reason for sticking to this standard is to habituate soldiers to thinking in definite terms in order that in moments of crisis they may be habituated to carry this out without loss of momentum.

The form generally required in all armies is:

First paragraph—*The Mission*—In other words the answer to "what am I to do, what is my general task"? Second paragraph is an analysis of the—*Opposing Forces*—and is subdivided into (a) the forces of the enemy, their number, their material condition and equipment, their physical condition, their morale, their reserves, their position on the terrain and so forth. The second paragraph (a) is a similar analysis of our own forces. The next main paragraph is the enemy's situation and intentions. We know his strength, approximately, and his general condition. We ought to know the general lay of the land and then we analyse in detail, if possible, plans. They may be either to attack or defend in some special manner. By elimination we choose the most probable of these plans and consider them seriously. The next paragraph is our possible plans, based upon our analysis of the plans open to the enemy. We consider what possible plans we can use and in some detail we analyse these possibilities. We weigh, seriously, for instance, the possibility of attacking and defending in some special position. We discuss the problems in each case, their advisability or inadvisability, and advantages and disadvantages, their

Last of a Series of Five Articles Dealing with Military Questions, by the Commander of the Battalion of Instruction N.º 15

MAJOR ALLAN JOHNSON

strength and their weakness, and once again by elimination we choose the most probable plan that we can use. This plan is then finally written out into the fifth paragraph of the estimate of the situation as our decision. It is upon this decision that the field order is based.

Although all this work may appear simple and sometimes unnecessary

it is a good experience for subordinate commanders to practise making estimates of the situation at all times, in order to familiarise themselves with the many possibilities that are open to them. Especially under modern conditions of warfare where a great deal of latitude and initiative lies within the realm of the subordinate command-

der. The knowledge of how to make a correct analysis or estimate of the situation is also the foundation for issuing correct field orders, oral or written, during an action, and since so much depends upon the brevity, conciseness and clarity of these field orders, it is quite obvious that before they can be either clear, concise or brief, their essence must be thoroughly understood. No commander can issue such an order and carry it out with determination unless he knows exactly what the situation is and how he is going to carry into effect the decisions he does reach and knows exactly how, when and where these must be done.

GEORGE FLETCHER of the British Battalion



Among those who received good service awards at Christmas was Lieutenant George Fletcher. Like others from Lancashire, he is a man with a genial manner; but it is a hard job to make him talk. His own past history interests him far less than Spain's present moment. He commands the machine-gun company of the British Battalion.

He has been a soldier since 1915, when he joined the Lancashire Fusiliers. He enjoys an outdoor life of action, and he doesn't care for sitting still, as those who have heard his famous song hit "Keep one finger moving" will understand.

During the world war he took part in the Gallipoli action, and made the difficult landing, which he describes as an experience rather more exciting than the warmest moments at Brunete. The Turks had laid barbed wire under the water, and this had to be passed under shell-fire from batteries on the hills above shore. One would guess that this was the toughest moment of Lt. Fletcher's life up to the present time, but he doesn't say much about it. Once the beach was reached the difficulties evened out a little, and the rest of the action was easier work than the fight for Mosquito Crest.

EXPERIENCE USEFUL

After the war, Fletcher remained in the service, and spent some years in India. By 1936 he was contemplating a return to civilian life and had certain speculative ideas about marriage. He was out of soldiering for six months, but the appearance of armed fascism in Spain changed his plans again. He arrived in this country in May of last year. His

experience with fire-arms of all sorts was an asset at the training camp, where he soon picked up the special features of the weapons which the Republican Army was using, and began to instruct those with less experience than himself. When the sections competed in dismantling and reassembling, their arms, Fletcher could beat anybody. He has deft fingers and an accurate eye. In training, and since, he has proved himself a first-class rifle shot.

He first saw active service in Spain at Brunete, where he was wounded in the shoulder. When his wound was finally healed, he was offered a position at the new training camp, but preferred to rejoin the Battalion. He went into action again at Fuentes de Ebro.

ON DISCIPLINE

Lt. Fletcher has watched the growth of discipline and organisation in the Republican Army with the satisfaction of an old hand. He

knows what it means. In his opinion the formalities of discipline, far from complicating a soldier's life, make it easier. Even in an Imperialist army he found that out, though discipline there is not used solely for the purpose of raising the soldier's level of efficiency. Where he traces the main difference is in the importance that the Republican Army attaches to the development of intelligence in the private soldier, on the assumption that the more a man knows the better he fights. An Imperialist army is compelled by its own conditions to discourage the rank and file from knowing too much about what is going on, in case it occurred to them that they were being used in someone else's interest.

The distinction creates a new atmosphere in which a man can get to grips with his job. Discipline clears the air and makes everything easier to follow. For the individual it becomes a matter of practical soldiering, equivalent to keeping his rifle clean or his feet in trim. For the Army as a whole it is a measure that makes the machine more compact, cuts out delay and increases the force of its striking power.

The deft fingers of Lt. Fletcher are put to many uses. During his training days he constituted fifty per cent of the Company Band, for which he provided percussion with a pair of spoons. He can always be relied on for a good number at a social evening. The only success he lays claim to is that he brought tears to the Alcalde's eyes with his acrobatic song-hit. He thinks this must be the reason why he received his award.

M. T.

LETTERS FROM HOME

Stay as Long as You
Can, Advises Veteran

Dear T....

Your letter arrived, as usual, more than a month after you had written it. Received The Volunteer for Liberty and the other material long before — the song books and other little booklets, and then the French book of the 15th Brigade. Could you tell me if they are going to print that book in English? I showed it to a number of people and all of them said they would like to buy it if it were in English. Most of the material you have sent I've given to the Friends of the Brigade; the rest I use myself, showing things to different people. The song books I am going to lend to different choruses around here.

The Philadelphia Friends of the Lincoln Brigade are now at 1011 Chestnut St., Room 818. They have also been receiving Volunteers and posters. Dan Elkins, secretary of the FLB, asks that you send him as many cards, posters and other material as possible. They could be sold or used as prizes to popularize their work.

The boys who have returned are Walcoff, Hy Rosner, Harry Wallach, Jacobs, Rochester, Chimefolsky, Melnicoff, Harold London from the Washington Battalion, and Brenner, who was an aviator. We have already established a chapter of the Veterans; it is called the Wickman-Barrelli Chapter...

You mention in your letter that you often wonder whether it is possible to readjust oneself completely after having been to war. Well, it is difficult. When one is at war there are a number of things that happen; and one gets

used to them. Then you come to a peaceful country, and you have different kinds of worries. When you go to meetings there's a lot of talk but little action. They do not understand the meaning of discipline, as men do who have



been at war. Another thing is that things go too slow... I wish it was possible for me to return to be in Spain still. In Spain we were able to be always with men who were men, men who spoke as friends and did not have — could not have — anything to hide...

Well, Pat, Dan and the boys send their best regards. The boys say that whatever you do, stay there in Spain as long as you can...
Salud!

BILL FRATT

British Labor M. P.,
Ted Williams, Hears
From Miners Federation

Dear Ted:

During the visit you and your colleagues are making to Spain, kindly convey to the heroic people of that country the deepfelt gratitude of the British miners in their fight for the cause of economic freedom.

To the miners of Asturias, those giant gladiators of immeasurable gallantry, give a real British miners' appreciation for their glorious work.

Wherever you go, whoever you meet among the fighters and workers for Spanish liberty as against tyranny, thank them in our name. Their good cause must spread throughout the length and breadth of the world.

Yours fraternally,
Ebby Edwards, Sec'y.
Miners, Federation
Gorfota Britain

NUEVOS RECLUTAS

«Ayudar, organizar y capacitar a la juventud». Palabras dichas por el Secretario general de la J. S. U. Palabras, que necesitamos aplicar inmediatamente. Pronto llegaran a las Unidades jóvenes reclutas. Sangre joven y dispuesta a luchar. Pero todavía con poca experiencia. Desde el momento en que el recluta llegue a la Unidad empieza nuestra tarea. Hay que ayudarles desde todos los puntos de vista. Si no saben como hay que aprovechar el terreno, hay que enseñárselo concienzudamente,

explicarle como se debe proteger de los ataques de los aviones, como se construyen refugios. Cada soldado veterano debe hacer todo lo posible para que lo que él ya sabe, lo sepa también el nuevo recluta. El recluta debe aprender a escribir a leer. Para ello, cada veterano le debe prestar su máxima ayuda. En los ratos de tranquilidad debe dejar por unos momentos el fusil a un lado, y empuñar las otras armas que son el papel y la pluma. Se deberán organizar escuelas de Transmisiones, Sanidad, etc. para los nuevos reclutas, donde este pueda llegar dentro del menor espacio de tiempo a poder llevar, por la capacitación obtenida, galones ganados merecidamente. Se les deberá dar charlas, explicándoles por que deben luchar a muerte hasta el aplastamiento final del fascismo. Si son labradores, se les deberá dar charlas de lo que la República del Frente Popular ha dado a los campesinos y a los trabajadores de la tierra. Si son obreros, se les explicará el cambio operado en las ciudades, en el que ya no existe un solo parado! Todos en pie a recibir a los nuevos reclutas, y a capacitarlos para que lleguen a ser una de las armas más poderosas para aplastar a la invasión fascista!

F. N.



21 BOMBARDMENTS FAIL TO DAUNT VALENCIANS

«Children first» is the motto of the Junta Passive Defense of Valencia, which has just published data concerning its work in the first seven months of its existence. The Junta, its work hastened because of the 21 bombardments which Valencia has undergone, has begun the construction of eight bomb-proof shelters adjoining schools, and it has carried out works to protect four clinics. In one of these a tunnel had to be

built to communicate with a bomb-proof shelter in which a special operating theatre can be set up.

The Junta has also built an emergency hospital with two operating theatres and twelve beds. It has built three bomb-proof shelters inside the city and two in the outskirts. It looks after the upkeep of the shelters previously constructed and the installation of powerful air-raid warning sirens.



Las tres condiciones esenciales para vencer

VALOR DISCIPLINA FE en la VICTORIA



¡NO PASARÁN!



The VOLUNTEER FOR LIBERTY

Organ of the international brigades



Vol. II - SPECIAL No. 9

Barcelona, March 17 - 1938

¡NO CEDER UN SOLO PALMO DE TERRENO

DO NOT YIELD AN INCH
OF
GROUND
TO
THE ENEMY!

Defend every
conquered posi-
tion; hold our li-
nes firmly; FOR-
TIFY, FORTIFY,
FORTIFY, THIS IS
THE DUTY OF
EVERY SOLDIER

Brigadas Internacio-
les, congregación gene-
rosa y espontánea de
hombres de las Cinco
partes del Mundo, que
pedían una plaza para
morir por la libertad.

DR. JUAN NEGRIN

GUADALAJARA

HACE UN AÑO A YEAR AGO

En Guadalajara el
enemigo poseía instru-
mentos de combate nu-
merosos, mejores y ma-
yores que los nuestros
entonces. Sin embargo,
fué primero contenido
y después aplestado.

El factor decisivo de
aquel gran episodio,
como tiene que serlo
junto a nuestros mejo-
res elementos de com-
bate en la lucha de
mañana fué la MORAL
INQUEBRANTABLE DE
NUESTROS SOLDADOS
la firmeza, la decisión
y el coraje de nuestros
MANDOS Y COMISA-
RIOS POLITICOS.

In Guadalajara the
enemy possessed more
numerous and better
weapons than ours
then. However, first the
enemy was held back,
then beaten.

The decisive factor of
that great episode, was
the brilliant morale of
our troops, the strength,
the courage of our com-
manders and Political
Commissars. With this
same morale we can
smash through the
Fascist Offensive and
hold high the Banner
of the Republic

AL
ENEMIGO!

Defender bien
cada posición
conquistada,
mantener fuertes
nuestras líneas.
FORTIFICAR,

FORTIFICAR,
FORTIFICAR,
es el gran deber
del soldado, man-
dos y comisarios.

Ayuda a los Comisa-
rios para que no exis-
ta un solo combatiente
que ignore para que
lucha y que es lo que
va a ganar con la vic-
toria.

¡FIRMES EN EL FRENTE!

grita la U. G. T. a los Oficiales y soldados de la XV Brigada



A TODOS LOS CAMARADAS SOLDADOS Y OFICIALES DE LA XV BRIGADA

¡ Celebremos hoy una victoria de unidad, conseguida por las masas de la U. G. T. y de la C. N. T., que han sellado su pacto de UNIDAD DE ACCION!

¡ Que este firme paso para preparar las condiciones de la victoria, que afianza la unidad de toda la España antifascista, sirva para impulsar la bravura de nuestras armas y tensar los pulsos de nuestros soldados!

¡ NO QUEREMOS SER VASALLOS DE MUSSOLINI! ¡ NO SEREMOS NUNCA UN PAIS FASCISTA!

UNA SOLA CONSIGNA: Para los soldados, resistir; para la retaguardia, trabajar. Y por encima de todo, fe; absoluta fe en

el destino victorioso de la REPUBLICA.

¡ NUESTRA ESPAÑA NO SERA DE LOS INVASORES!

Defendemos nuestra tierra, nuestras casas, nuestras vidas y nuestro porvenir.

¡ No podemos retroceder un solo paso!

¡ Unidos, inquebrantablemente unidos en la resistencia!

¡ Firmes en las trincheras! ¡ Nosotros estamos firmes en las fábricas!

¡ Atrás, los enemigos del pueblo!

¡ ESPAÑA NO SERA DE MUSSOLINI!

¡ ESPAÑA PERTENECE AL PUEBLO ESPAÑOL!

¡ RESISTID, FORTIFICAD, Y NUNCA PASARAN!

FEDERACIÓN LOCAL DE SINDICATOS DE BARCELONA, U. G. T.

“BE FIRM AT THE FRONT!” SAYS UGT TO OFFICERS AND MEN OF 15th BRIGADE “WHILE WE SPEED UP WAR PRODUCTION”

TO THE COMRADE SOLDIERS AND OFFICERS OF THE 15th BRIGADE

A great victory in the rearguard has been sealed — a pact of UNITY between the U. G. T. and the C. N. T.

This tremendous victory means the doubling of all our efforts to help win the war.

It means we shall be able to send you more and better war material to defend yourselves against the bestial fascist murderers.

In this critical moment there must be one slogan:

For you: RESIST, RESIST at all costs.

For the rearguard:

WORK HARDER THAN EVER.



Above All you must keep FAITH, absolute faith in the victorious destiny of the REPUBLIC.

OUR SPAIN SHALL NOT BE THAT OF THE INVADERS!

We are defending our land, our homes, our lives and our future!

We cannot and must not retreat a step!

UNITE, unite in the resistance!

BE FIRM AT THE FRONT WHILE WE WORK AS FIRMLY IN THE WAR FACTORIES!

SMASH THE ENEMIES OF THE PEOPLE!

SPAIN SHALL NEVER BE MUSSOLINI'S.

SPAIN BELONGS TO



THE LOYAL SPANISH PEOPLE.

RESIST! FORTIFY!

AND THEY SHALL NOT PASS!

Comrades: Now is the time when unity and courage and hard work are needed more than ever before. Every drop of blood shed by our comrades on the fields of Spain is blood spilled in the protection of our own lands — blood spilled in the war to exterminate German Nazism and Italian Fascism.

Comrades: whatever our nationality, whether we be American or British or Spanish — let us fight shoulder to shoulder together in this critical time as we have worked side by side in past battles! Let us resist with strength, and turn the fascist offensive into a crushing defeat and rout, as our comrades did at Guadalajara a year ago!

RESISTIR ES VENCER



The VOLUNTEER FOR LIBERTY

Organ of the international brigades



Vol. II - SPECIAL No. 10

Barcelona, March 21 - 1938

¡ATRÁS LOS INVASORES DE ESPAÑA!

DRIVE OUT THE INVADERS OF SPAIN!

Make Aragon a second Guadalajara for the Italians!

Reinforcements of arms and men are on their way.

These new weapons, with your courage and heroism, can be used to halt and destroy the enemy.

All of Spain is with you.

The whole nation is mobilizing in a feverish war tempo against the fascists.

Fling your whole strength against the invaders!

**TO DEFEND SPAIN'S
FREEDOM IS TO DEFEND
YOUR OWN HOMELAND!**



Una sola preocupación política en todo el país y en todos los antifascistas:

¡Unidad contra el enemigo común!

Ediciones del Comisariado de las Brigadas Internacionales

“Cada metro de tierra española tiene ahora un valor de kilómetros para nuestro destino y el de la humanidad civilizada.”

(Del discurso del Ministro de Instrucción Pública, camarada Jesús Hernández.)

¡Aragón será para los Italianos un segundo Guadalajara!

¡Soldados! ¡Combatientes todos! Nuevos hermanos vuestros. Nuevos medios de lucha van a ayudaros, y con ellos y con vuestro heroísmo y vuestro patriotismo hay que aplastar a los extranjeros que asaltan la patria. Todo el pueblo está a vuestro lado. Toda la patria se moviliza en un mismo latido de guerra contra los invasores.

DESCARGAD COMO HURACÁN INCONTENIBLE TODA LA FUERZA DE VUESTRO DESPRECIO, DE VUESTRO ODIO SAGRADO CONTRA LAS HORDAS SEDIENTAS DE VUESTRA LIBERTAD.



TO FORTIFY IS TO CONQUER!

NOW IS THE TIME TO STRIKE BACK!

It is twenty months, almost to a day since the traitor generals, the Benedict Arnolds of Spain, began their rebellion of blood against the Spanish people. Twenty months since the combined forces of German and Italian fascism have despoiled the land.

It has also been twenty months of stiff resistance—twenty months during which the enemy has been stopped at all vital points, as in Madrid, as in Guadalajara, and the Jarama valley.

Today the people of Spain work harder than ever before to turn out the materials of war—materials which we, the soldiers of the Republic, can transform into materials of victory.

War supplies flow steadily toward the front. Some

have already arrived. Other large shipments are on the way.

This flow will not be interrupted a moment!

Artillery, planes, ammunition—these are now turned out, and will continue to be turned out, in abundance. Sufficient to turn every attack into a counter-attack

that will win back for Loyal Spain the land which rightfully belongs to the people with whom we fight shoulder to shoulder.

These materials, added to our will to conquer, will go a long way toward victory.

The workers of the rear pledge that the flow of war materials to the front shall not cease.

They—and all Spain—await our answer.



Tendréis soldados del pueblo, todo el armamento que necesitéis para alcanzar, con vuestro valor y vuestra pericia, Victorias decisivas en la lucha por la libertad de España.

Dr. NEGRIN, Presidente del Consejo de Ministros

¡RESISTID Y FORTIFICAD!



The VOLUNTEER FOR LIBERTY

Organ of the international brigades



Vol. II - SPECIAL No. 11

Barcelona, March 25 - 1938

LUCHAR HASTA LA VICTORIA



El enemigo emplea una nueva táctica. Contra nuestros hombres, máquinas. Pero en la guerra el factor fundamental es el hombre. El hombre dotado de la convicción heroica de que está empeñado en la más grande lucha por su libertad. Porque cada joven que llega a nuestro Ejército, cada antifascista que se encuadra en él, cada español simplemente llamado al cumplimiento de su deber militar saben que están luchando porque la Patria no sucumba bajo un poder extranjero, porque nuestras minas, nuestros campos, nuestras mujeres, nuestra dignidad no sean botín de un invasor.

(Del discurso del Ministro de Instrucción Pública, camarada Jesús Hernández.)



¡Soldados!

Cuidad y conservad las armas como el tesoro más preciado que el pueblo español ha puesto en vuestras manos.

Cada fusil, cada máquina, ha costado a nuestra patria dificultades y sacrificios inmensos obtenerlo.

No abandonéis jamás tu fusil. El es tu mejor compañero. Tu mejor instrumento de defensa.

Por cada fusil que se abandona o se estropea se presta un valioso servicio a tus peores enemigos: a los traidores como Franco y los señores, y a los mercenarios de Hitler y Mussolini que invaden nuestro país.



¡Camarada soldado!

El deber sublime de todo luchador antifascista en estas horas es resistir al enemigo. Resistir frente a todos los obstáculos y dificultades.

La resistencia ardiente del pueblo en otras etapas difíciles permitió convertir las ofensivas fascistas en victorias republicanas.

Ni las balas, ni los obuses, ni las bombas de la aviación fascista pueden impedir que nuestros combatientes se peguen a la tierra y no la abandonen. El terreno no lo ocupan los cañones ni los aviones: lo ocupan los hombres, lo ocupa la infantería. Y cada soldado del Ejército Popular vale diez veces más que los soldados obligados a luchar por Franco y los mercenarios traidores de Italia, Alemania y Marruecos.

¡Camarada comisario!
La consigna de todo nuestro pueblo es: ¡Resistir al enemigo!

La defensa del terreno hasta el heroísmo más grandioso la han hecho nuestros soldados en docenas de batallas durísimas.

Bastó que nuestros soldados comprendiesen bien la necesidad imperiosa de cerrar el paso al enemigo para que cada combatiente popular se transformase en una muralla que no podían franquear los ejércitos invasores.

El trabajo político de nuestros comisarios, la fortaleza moral y la resolución de heroísmo y sacrificio que transmitían a cada soldado, el ejemplo personal de cientos de comisarios en momentos decisivos hizo de cada soldado un ejemplo brillante de disciplina y arrojo.

Como en otras tantas batallas, en Madrid, en Guadalajara, en el Jarama, en Pozoblanco, en Teruel, hoy en Aragón, los comisarios tienen que ser los hombres decisivos de las situaciones difíciles.

¡Comisarios! El epílogo de la batalla de Aragón tiene que ser, por vuestro trabajo, el mismo del 18 de marzo en Guadalajara.

SPAIN WILL NEVER YIELD TO FASCISM

« Our people has always known how to defend itself, our whole history, the history of the people's liberties in our country is a lesson in heroism. Our people never tolerated the yoke of foreign rule, was never willing to be a subject nation. With a sublime heroism the people of Numancia buried themselves in the ruins of their city. With epic bravery our grandfathers defended Spanish soil against the Napoleonic eagles. And it is from this home of heroes, this brood of Titans, this virile, undying blood that our people spring. Yesterday, armed with shot guns sticks, knives and shears, this people defeated the invasion. Today, with that spirit which glows through the whole history of Spain it will never tolerate any foreign rule. The whole spirit of the present war blends with our people's past, with its determination to be independent, to be free.

These are the spiritual virtues of our innermost Spanish being. This is the spirit which must be aroused to the highest pitch and in that spirit our Army and our people must be trained. — The unconquerable spirit of resistance. To cling to the ground, to protect it with a body that prefers death to slavery, to guard it with our unyielding resolve not to let them pass. Every yard of Spanish soil today has the worth of miles for our destiny and for the destiny of all civilised mankind. To resist is to conquer. Firm in the defence, firm on Spanish land! From our victorious resistance will spring the impulse for our overwhelming offensive.»

JESUS HERNANDEZ

Minister of Public Instruction

ONE VICTORY THEY CANNOT WIN!

The city of Barcelona suffered, during the days of March 16, 17, and 18, the heaviest and most concentrated aerial bombardment that any city has received in the history of the war. Despite this, the people have not wavered.



Instead of buckling to the brutality of fascism, the people are uniting more closely than ever. The C. N. T. and the U. G. T., Spain's giant trade union organizations, have completed a Unity Pact that will bring the workers of all fields into one powerful front against the invaders. The war factories hum busily. Industry is reaching a vigorous war tempo. Catalonia will not give in to fascism.

A year ago, Madrid inflicted heavy blows on the fascists at Jarama and Guadalajara. The 15th Brigade played a leading role in stopping the fascists at Jarama. Madrid was NOT taken.

Now the 15th Brigade can once again play a leading and historic role in the Spanish war by again stopping the fascists dead in their tracks. We can duplicate the Guadalajara triumph of a year ago.

The enemy may have advanced and won ground, but one victory they shall not win — and that is THE FINAL VICTORY.

That last victory can be, AND WILL BE, OURS.



¡FIRMES EN LA RESISTENCIA!



The VOLUNTEER FOR LIBERTY

Organ of the international brigades



Vol. II - SPECIAL No. 12

Barcelona, March 28 - 1938

CADA PICO FORTIFICANDO CONTRA LOS ENEMIGOS DEL PUEBLO

Se han dado muchas órdenes, de que inmediatamente después de la entrada en una posición se deben construir fortificaciones. Pero muchos de nuestros camaradas no piensan en crearse, siendo esto lo primero de todo, una verdadera defensa, con la cual está asegurado contra artillería y aviación. Los últimos combates en Teruel nos han demostrado, que cada soldado que no se ha fortificado bien, está perdido en el terreno.

¿Qué es lo que debe tener siempre consigo un soldado de Infantería? Un fusil para disparar y una pala, con la cual se pueda fortificar en todo momento. Pero a pesar de esto, estas necesidades elementales no nos han entrado en la cabeza como nos debían haber entrado.

¿Cómo son en su mayor parte una de nuestras posiciones? Tomemos como ejemplo un hoyo de tirador. Un agujero grande, no muy hondo, pero ancho, de forma que pueda contener uno o dos hombres. Además, las piedras sacadas del agujero son colocadas en la dirección del tiro delante del agujero de tirador. Por la anchura del hoyo, cada aviador está en condiciones de poder tocar al tirador que se encuentra en el hoyo. Las piedras colocadas delante del agujero, pueden convertirse muy fácilmente en metralla en el momento en que una bala hace blanco en ellas y hieren al combatiente que se encuentra detrás.

¿Cómo se debe construir un hoyo de tirador? En una profundidad de 1'10 m. y en una anchura de 70 a 80 cm.; esto es completamente suficiente y tiene todas las exigencias de una buena protección, que necesita el tirador. La tierra sacada se debe colocar en la dirección de tiro, y proporciona una buena cazadora de balas contra los tiros de Infantería, sin que el combatiente que se encuentra detrás sea herido. Las piedras sacadas se tiran a algunos metros de distancia detrás del hoyo de tirador. Se debe poner una especial atención en el «camuflaje». La tierra fresca acabada de sacar se tiene que ajustar al terreno y no se tiene que diferenciar por nada de los alrededores. Este trabajo se puede realizar en una noche y a la mañana siguiente el soldado tiene una protección suficiente contra el fuego de Infantería enemigo y contra el «bigo» de las ametralladoras de los aviones.



No es hora más que de tener un solo pensamiento y una sola voluntad, aplastar al enemigo. Aplastarle, luchando en el frente, trabajando más en la retaguardia, persiguiéndole y desenmascarándole cuando se oculta entre nosotros.

Dr. NEGRIN, Presidente del Consejo de Ministros.

Ediciones del Comisariado de las Brigadas Internacionales

EL FASCISMO SE ESTRELLARÁ EN ESPAÑA

Excmo. Sr. Presidente del Consejo de Ministros.

Los soldados, Clases y Comisarios del 55 Batallón de la 14 Brigada Mixta, piden a V. E. emplee mano dura contra los enemigos del pueblo que pretenden esclavizarnos con su régimen tiránico.

Los combatientes de este Batallón estamos dispuestos a derramar toda nuestra sangre hasta aplastarlos definitivamente, porque de esto depende el bienestar de todos los trabajadores, haciendo al mismo tiempo vieja y firme nuestra consigna de ¡No pasarán y pasaremos!

Nos oponemos terminantemente a pacto de ninguna clase con los as-sinos de nuestros hermanos de clase, por tener plena seguridad en nuestro fuerte Gobierno del Frente Popular.

Queremos que en nuestra retaguardia cunda nuestro ejemplo, intensificando su trabajo en la producción de material de guerra, y de esta forma, trabajando conjuntamente retaguardia y vanguardia, el fascismo se estrellará en España.

Felicitamos a nuestro Gobierno por su correcta actuación.

¡Viva nuestro glorioso Ejército y el Frente Popular!

Siguen 50 firmas

NEWS BRIEFS OF THE WEEK

NEW YORK. — The hostility of the American people against the Neutrality act is growing daily. This Act, passed in May, 1937, was designed to prevent war shipments from being sent from the United States to loyal Spain. The «New York Times» in a sensational editorial calls for the repeal of the Neutrality Act.

A Spanish paper reports that even the arch-conservative «Herald Tribune» attacks the fascists and predicts that the democracies will align themselves with Russia against the militarists.

THE SOVIET TRIAL

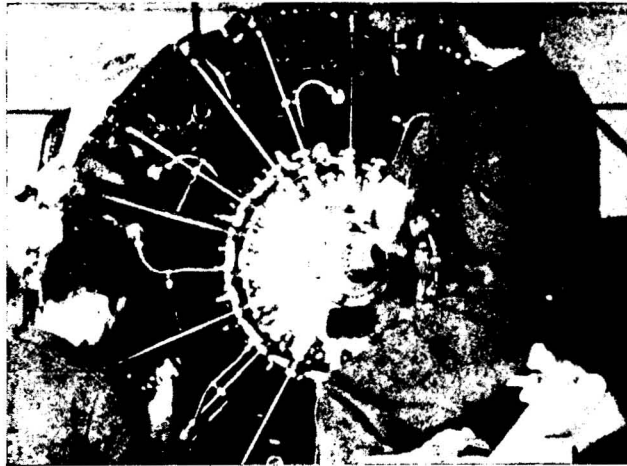
On March 2nd the trial began before the Military Collegion of the Supreme Court of the U. S. S. R. of the members of the criminal conspiracy group of the «bloc of Rights and Trotskyists».

Among the accused are five whose names are generally known throughout the country. They are Bukharin, Rykov, Yagoda, Krestinsky and Rakovsky.

In the dock stands the former leader of the «Left Communists», Rykov, who later, in company with Bukharin, Tomsy and others, became the organising traitor of the right-wing restorers of capitalism. In with him are the bourgeois Nationalists: Ikramov, Eaisula, Khoadjayev and others; the ex-Mensheviks like Chernov and former Social Revolutionaries like Grinko; past and present provocateurs of the Czarist Okhrana, like Zelensky and Ivanov, and people who used their diplomas as doctors and professors to poison some of the best men of the proletarian Revolution: Kubyshev, Menshinsky and Gorky.

NEW YORK. — In Times Square recently, 5000 young people burned an effigy of Hitler. The demonstration paralyzed traffic for half an hour.

LONDON. — An editorial in the «Daily Herald», organ of the Labour Party approves of the idea of a conference for peace as proposed by the Soviet Government. This editorial is particularly significant when it is remembered that this paper has always been



WAR FACTORY IN OUR REAR

READY TO DEFEND SPAIN'S LIBERTY AND FUTURE

Once again the enemies of the Spanish people have been conducting strong military operations against the independence of Spain. With foreign troops and imported war material, the servants of international fascism are attempting to subject new territories to a régime of slavery and degradation.

In twenty months of struggle we have faced many enemy offensives. A thousand times the traitors have announced that Spain would be totally subdued. A thousand times, too, the people and its Army have demonstrated that a nation continues to be free when it is ready to defend its liberty and its future with weapons, and sacrifice the life of its sons for the banner of independence.

At all times the Republican fighters have known how to surpass the odds of war material against them with a strong morale and powerful conviction which neither Franco's soldiers nor those of Mussolini have ever, or can ever, have. Our rifles and our equipment, insufficient as it has been, have successfully opposed all the weapons sent to Spain by Italians and Germans in order to assassinate us.

The tenacity and the sacrifice of our soldiers will transform into gun-powder and into an unconquerable cry the banner and slogan of antifascist Spain: **THEY SHALL NOT PASS!**

hostile towards Soviet Russia. Among some of the passages in the editorial are:

«The Government of the U. S. S. R. proposes that the directing members of the League of Nations with the United States have a conference to discuss the international situation.

«The object would be to combine all forces to preserve peace. This is precisely the practical path waited for by many years by millions of Britishers, who would liked to have seen this initiated by their own Government. The initiative, instead, came from the U. S. S. R.

«It's immaterial where it came from. What is important is that it has come and it is indispensable to not let this opportunity pass by not backing it. All who believe in collective security as the only medium to avoid world disaster must support the Soviet Government's proposal enthusiastically.»

NEW YORK. «We believe», write 61 Bishops of 36 states of the North American Confederation, in a letter directed to the catholic Bishops, «that the war in Spain, begun as a military rebellion, has been transformed into a realization of part of a general program of conquest by the fascist nations. We know that the catholic church of the United States has shown favorable tendencies toward Franco. Regardless, we ask the church to intervene against fascist barbarism.»

The letter of the North Evangelic Church protests the savage bombardments of Barcelona and expresses the hope that the catholic Bishops will protest to Salamanca.

VIENNA. According to the latest news, more than 1000 suicides have been registered in Austria during the past week. The legitimate Austrian chief, Coronel Wolf, was reported to have committed suicide after he shot at some German officials. Wide scale arrests continue.

PARIS. The French Government together with the British Government has sent to the Spanish Rebels a note expressing horror of the un-called for bombardments of the city of Barcelona.

UNIDOS TODOS — RESISTIR SIEMPRE



The VOLUNTEER FOR LIBERTY

Organ of the international brigades



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DISCIPLINE: The Difference Between Troops and Rabble

¡BRAVO POR LOS QUINTOS!

por el teniente ayudante
de operaciones

GERMAN HERNANDEZ ANTON

There must be few members of the XV Brigade who have not seen some or another witnessed a large ceremonial parade and, whatever other feelings they may have had, admired the precision and accuracy of the troops in movement. Most have read at some time or another of incidents such as the siege of Verdun, or the forming of the British infantry square at Waterloo, and if such incidents be analysed it will be found that they were only rendered possible by a high standard of discipline.

Discipline has been held to be that which differentiates a body of troops from a rabble. Those among us who imagine that discipline is a measure solely created for their personal discomfort would do well to remember that no campaign has ever been successfully waged by an ill-disciplined army, but that on the contrary discipline is the keystone of military success. Many are also prone to forget although they willingly impose various actions of discipline upon themselves, they are among the first to resent discipline imposed on them by others, oblivious of the fact that such disciplinary measures are almost invariably in their own interests, and undoubtedly in the interests of the Army as a whole.

Those who feel subversive should consider the state of an army in the field lacking the means for cohesive action. Not only will it be impossible to achieve any measure of success but there will be an appalling loss of life as a result of this.

In the case of officers and N. C. O.'s it will be found that if they are genuinely interested in the welfare of those under their command, they will be respected, and by such respect discipline will be easily maintained. Commissars in particular are responsible for keeping up the disciplinary tone of their unit by their personal example both on and off parade. The nearer a unit is to actual combat, the more urgent the issue of discipline becomes.

Ill-disciplined troops in action have damaging effect on morale. At Waterloo, Wellington, though numerically inferior, had some thousands of troops marched from the scene of action to avoid the harmful effect their lack of discipline was having on the army as a whole. The professional fascist troops have a long disciplinary training behind them, and although their methods will never be ours, at the same time we are not going to let them take lead of us in this necessary military accomplishment.

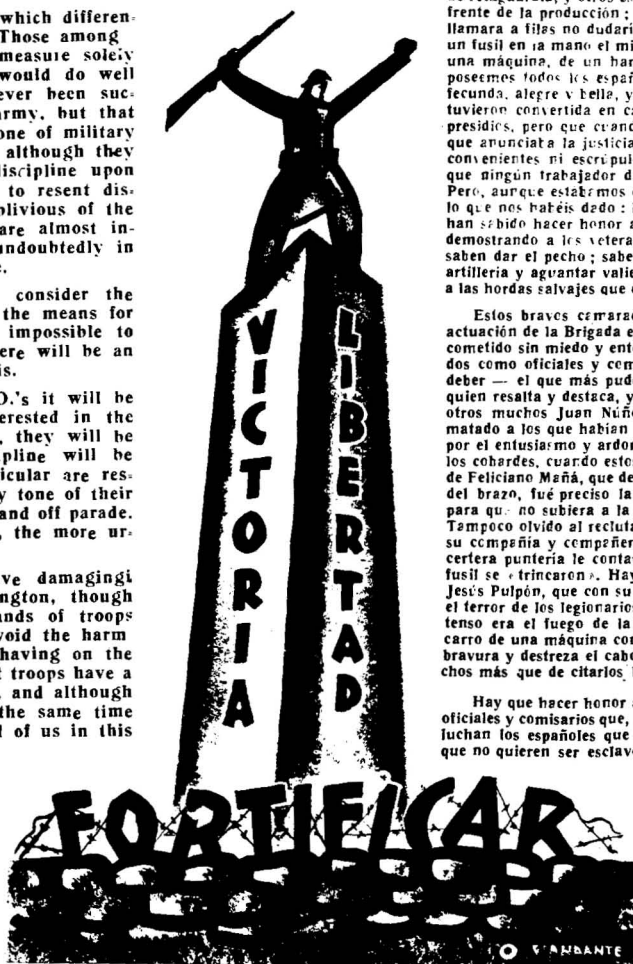
The standard of discipline of an army can be measured by the esteem in which it is held by the civil population. Good relations between them depend directly upon this standard. This is to be the year of liberation for the Spanish people. Let Discipline be the motto of the Army that is to drive the fascist invader out of Spain.

Los que tenemos conocimiento claro de la lucha que se desarrolla en España, estamos convencidos de que los reclutas, a pesar de no haberse incorporado voluntariamente a las filas de nuestro glorioso Ejército Popular, tampoco lo hicieron a la fuerza, ya que como forzados se puede sólo designar a los hijos de... esas castas que siempre esclavizaron a España y que lograron ponerse a salvo durante los primeros días o bien fueron eliminados por la justicia del pueblo. Por esto estábamos convencidos de que si no se habían incorporado antes era porque muchos estaban al frente de importantes cargos de retaguardia, y otros estaban ocupados en el no menos importante frente de la producción; pero que tan pronto como el Gobierno los llamara a filas no dudarian ni un momento en venir a cumplir con un fusil en la mano el mismo deber que cumplían antes al frente de una máquina, de un harado o de una oficina, con el espíritu que poseemos todos los españoles hijos de ese pueblo de España rica y fecunda, alegre y bella, y que durante siglos esas castas sublevadas tuvieron convertida en campos de concentración y sus ciudades en presidios, pero que cuando vieron que comenzaba a clarear el alba que anunciaba la justicia, la libertad y el progreso, no tuvieron inconvenientes ni escrúpulos en desencadenar esta horrible tragedia que ningún trabajador deseaba ni hubiera sido capaz de acarrear. Pero, aunque estamos convencidos, aún nos faltaba algo, y eso es lo que nos habéis dado: la confirmación, ya que los reclutas del 24 han sabido hacer honor a la tradición del Batallón y de la Brigada demostrando a los veteranos que, aunque sin ninguna experiencia, saben dar el pecho; saben cruzar las espesas cortinas del fuego de artillería y aguantar valientemente a la aviación y hacer retroceder a las hordas salvajes que están mancillando nuestra España.

Estos bravos camaradas nos dieron un ejemplo en la primera actuación de la Brigada en esta última campaña, cumpliendo con su cometido sin miedo y entonando cantos guerreros, pues tanto soldados como oficiales y comisarios estuvieron todos a la altura de su deber — el que más pudo más hizo. Más, entre todos siempre hay quien resalta y destaca, y en la operación de ese día lo fueron entre otros muchos Juan Núñez, «El Conejo», quien después de haber matado a los que habían herido a un compañero, él solo, arrastrado por el entusiasmo y ardor antifascista, quiso salir en persecución de los cobardes, cuando estos huían. También cito con emoción el caso de Feliciano Mañá, que después de que le hubieron curado las heridas del brazo, fué preciso la intervención enérgica del capitán Brage para que no subiera a la trinchera como el tozudamente pretendía. Tampoco olvido al recluta Antonio Barrios, que según el capitán de su compañía y compañeros que le rodeaban, con gran serenidad y cierta puntería le contaron diez y seis fascistas que entre él y su fusil se «trincaron». Hay otro digno de mención — ese veterano, Jesús Pulpón, que con su máquina y en pleno cañoneo enemigo fué el terror de los legionarios. Un cerrillero se destacó cuando más intenso era el fuego de la artillería enemiga; él solo transportó el carro de una máquina con cuatro cintas. También hizo prodigios de bravura y destreza el cabo de un fusil ametralladora; y en fin, muchos más que de citarlos, la lista sería innumerable.

Hay que hacer honor al 24 Batallón a los voluntarios y reclutas, oficiales y comisarios que, fundidos en un solo bloque lucharon como luchan los españoles que defienden su patria y como trabajadores que no quieren ser esclavos. Y para terminar, permitidme que recuerde a los veteranos, y ofrezca a los reclutas — que por cierto al recibir el bautizo de fuego, ya han dejado de serlo — el verso del poeta del batallón que dice:

Terminada la operación
Queda el mando satisfecho
Habéis cumplido un deber
Se os reserva un derecho.



WHAT THE SOLDIER TAKES WITH THE

LA FEDERACION LOCAL DE BARCELONA DE LA U. G. T. ACUERDA APADRINAR LA 15ª BRIGADA INTERNACIONAL

«Estimados camaradas:

Nunca como en estos momentos se ha hecho evidente vuestra clarividencia de octubre del 30 al decidiros, con emocionante gesto, luchar por la causa del pueblo es pañol; y cada hora que pase, con la tragedia a que día tras día se ve impelido el mundo por las audacias del fascismo, cada vez con mayor descaro, vendrá a dar a vuestra aportación a la defensa de nuestras libertades la categoría de gesto profético, frente los que hasta hace muy poco, en su ceguera o en su egoísmo, no han podido o no han querido ver qué era lo que se ventilaba en nuestra guerra.

Para vosotros fué, desde que tomasteis la decisión de abandonar vuestros hogares para acudir en ayuda de nuestro pueblo, un deber de pura solidaridad que os imponía vuestra conciencia de hombres libres. No quisiéramos que en días futuros vuestros países, los países democráticos, tuvieran que consagrarlos como a ejemplares patriotas que se anticiparon a defender su propia patria, ya amenazada desde el momento en que empezaron a llegar a España, invadiéndola, los mercenarios de Hitler y Mussolini.

Transcurrido cerca de año y medio desde que iniciasteis vuestras heroicas actuaciones en tierra hispana, ya formado el gran Ejército Popular Regular pasáis a ser, a medida que el volumen y la potencialidad de éste va en aumento, sobre todo un símbolo y un ejemplo, ya que numéricamente sois una parte valiosísima, pero pequeña, del Ejército Antifascista.

Y es por esto precisamente por lo que nosotros queremos rendiros homenaje de gratitud y admiración.

La guerra será aún muy dura, posiblemente larga, y es más necesario cada día establecer muy estrechos lazos entre el frente y la retaguardia, hasta conseguir que desde las líneas avanzadas hasta las costas mediterráneas todos nos sintamos combatientes, marchando y laborando al unísono con una sola finalidad; la guerra victoriosa.

He aquí por qué una de las decisiones más destacadas del III Congreso de la Unión General de Trabajadores de Cataluña fué la de que nuestros Sindicatos apadrinasen unidades del Ejército, la más eficaz y noble manera de ligar la vanguardia con la retaguardia.

Y aunando ambas razones, la Federación Local de Sindicatos de Barcelona de la U. G. T., que cuenta en su seno a muchos sindicatos que apadrinan unidades de combatientes, ha acordado que la que ella apadrinase como tal Federación fuese una Brigada Interna-

cional. De esta manera llenaba un doble cometido: estrechar los lazos de camaradería con los combatientes en general, ya que no olvidamos que en vuestra Brigada, como en todas las Internacionales hay un porcentaje importantísimo de soldados españoles, y hacer patente nuestra fraternidad con los heroicos y abnegados camaradas de todas las tendencias antifascistas que, abandonando sus pacíficos países y sus más entrañables afectos, supieron arriesgarlo todo por el supremo ideal de la Humanidad, la libertad de los hombres y de los pueblos.

He ahí, camaradas, las causas por las que la Federación Local de Barcelona de la U. G. T. ha decidido apadrinar vuestra Brigada, a cuyas razones se han añadido las del conocimiento que tenemos de vuestros numerosos y heroicos hechos de armas que tienen los nombres gloriosos de Jarama, Brunete, Belchite y otros, trozos de suelo español que regasteis con vuestra sangre al derrotar en ellos al fascismo.

Los Sindicatos de Barcelona, representados por esta Federación Local os ofrecen, con su padrínaje, su incondicional ayuda para resolver vuestras necesidades en relación con la retaguardia, su propósito entusiasta de procuraros en la medida de lo posible aquellas cosas a las que no llega la complicitad de organización oficial, por ser requeridos sus esfuerzos y su atención por otras más apremiantes y tal vez más necesarias, su cordial disposición para atenderos en cualquier problema que necesite resolver en los días de descanso cualquiera de vosotros, aun en los de índole particular, proporcionaros medios de relacionaros con elementos de retaguardia que osrezcan segura garantía de antifascismo y, en suma, nuestra Casa social, en

BARCELONA U. G. T. OFFERS PATRONAGE TO XV BRIGADE



A decision to assume patronage of the 15th Brigade in order to «cement the front and the rear» was expressed in a letter to the Brigade by the Local Federation of the Barcelona U. G. T. This letter was published in the March 10th issue of *Las Noticias*, organ of the U. G. T. of Catalonia.

Part of the letter reads:

«The war will still be a hard and possibly a long one. It is necessary to establish a very strong link between the front and the rearguard, a link which will extend from the most advanced front line posts to the coast of the Mediterranean, all fighters, marching and working in unison with one final goal in view; a victorious war.»

The letter explains that the Local Federation of the U. G. T. has decided to adopt the Brigade because.

«...we know your numerous heroic deeds that bear the names of the glorious Jarama, Brunete, Belchite and others, plots of Spanish soil on which you have shed your blood to help destroy fascism.»

«The Unions of Barcelona, represented by this Local Federation offers, with its patronage, their unconditional wish to assist in resolving your necessities in relation to the rearguard and has an enthusiastic aim to procure measures to aid in securing those things you need, to which often you cannot give your time because of your pressing activities. We extend ourselves to you in your days of rest and offer to acquaint you with elements of the rearguard of good antifascist character. In addition we throw open our Social House where you will find a fraternal spirit and where you will be attended to with generosity and are free to come and feel assured in finding us always ready to collaborate with you.»

«The Local Federation of the U. G. T. of Barcelona wishes to begin an effective work and is happy to announce a proposed visit to your general barracks in the near future.»

«We send you our most cordial antifascist salutations from the Unions of the Barcelona U. G. T.»

«For the Local Federation of the Barcelona U. G. T.»

T. Salvado

Secretary of Propaganda

la que desde ahora tenéis que ver el hogar del camarada fraternal donde siempre se os atenderá con cariño y a donde siempre podéis acudir en la seguridad de encontrarnos dispuestos a prestaros nuestra colaboración.

La Federación Local de la U. G. T. de Barcelona quiere hoy mismo, al ofrendaros su padrínaje, empezar una labor efectiva y se complace en anunciaros una próxima visita a vuestro cuartel general, en la que se dé comienzo a esa ayuda a la 15 Brigada Internacional.

Recibid los más cordiales saludos antifascistas de los Sindicatos de Barcelona de la U. G. T.

Por la Federación Local de Barcelona de la U. G. T.,

T. Salvado

Secretario de Propaganda

WANTING TO KNOW

«Remember that time we were assaulting up the terraces?» the volunteer said. «Remember how we dashed up under the terrace wall, and stuck to it as if we were nailed on?»

«Right beside me was young Sam. He hollered out. I said, «What's the matter?» He said, something hit him, and wanted to know if he was wounded.»

«I said, he should know better than me, but he said he couldn't run around himself and have a look, in fact under the circumstances he couldn't even turn round safely. Maybe I could see blood somewhere.»

«Well, I didn't see any blood and I said so.»

«'Guess it was a stone or something', he said, and looked pretty relieved. He settled down to the job again, and so did I, and I dare say the matter was passing out of his mind the same as mine, when suddenly he hollered again. I am wounded' he said. 'Look here — Look at this!'

«He held out his hand, and there was blood on it all right. It came from his shoulder. A bullet had gone right through.»

«So that's how young Sam got to Benicassim.»

LO QUE EL SOLDADO CONQUISTA CON LA BAYO

BAYONET, HE HOLDS WITH THE SPADE

VARIAS PERSONALIDADES INGLÉSAS ATESTIGUAN QUE EL EX - GENERAL QUEIPO DE LLANO INSULTÓ EN LA LÍNEA, A INGLATERRA

Gibraltar. — Más de cien personalidades inglesas residentes en esta plaza asistieron el domingo último, en La Línea, al acto en el curso del cual el ex general Queipo de Llano pronunció una serie ininterrumpida de sandeces insultando a Inglaterra.

Según han manifestado los testigos, entre los asistentes a aquel acto figuraban un miembro del Consejo Ejecutivo y varios individuos pertenecientes a la « Justicia de Paz ». Todos los ingleses que se encontraban presentes cuando Queipo de Llano pronunció las palabras insultando a Inglaterra abandonaron el local, regresando rápidamente a Gibraltar.

¡Cuatro nombres de plata!

Cuatro Nombres gloriosos tiene la XV Brigada, cuatro Batallones de hierro salieron de sus entrañas.

Al año de nacer tus cuatro hijos del alma, pusieron en alto nivel el nombre que tu alborozada les pusiste al nacer: Mackenssi-Pappino Inglés, Lincoln y Veinticuatro.

Estos son los cuatro nombres que salieron de la Nada. Para convertirse en Batallones de soldados leales a España.

¡Contenta puedes estar madre XV Brigada, tus hijos saben vencer en millares de Batallas! ¿Cuál es el mejor de todos cuando luchan con las armas? Luchando como Ellos luchan por la Causa Proletaria, no hay diferencia alguna son cuatro nombres de Plata. ¡Se grabaron en Brunete! ¡Se grabaron en Jarama! Se grabaron en Quinto y Belchite, Teruel y muchas batallas. Y quedaron grabadas siempre sus cuatro nombres de Plata. Y cuando la guerra termine con la victoria Proletaria, España entera cantará a ti XV Brigada por tus cuatro Batallones grabados en nombres de Plata. ¡Mackenssi-Pappino, Inglés, Lincoln y Veinticuatro, tus cuatro hijos del alma!

SANTIAGO LÓPEZ
(XV Brigade Ingenieros)

FOREIGN MEDICAL AID

The Foreign Medical Aid Committee began to function in Spain a year and a half ago. Today the organization has 17 base hospitals and 6 mobile surgical units, with a total of 5,028 beds; 116 ambulances of various sizes, 53 large trucks, 13 light trucks, 23 touring cars, 7 mobile operating theatres, 7 disinfection trucks, and a number of gas-proof ambulances.

There are 163 foreign doctors and 68 Spanish doctors in the Foreign Medical Aid. Among these there are 10 foreign surgeons and 9 Spanish surgeons. Up to December 31, 1937, the base hospitals of the Foreign Medical Aid attended to 27,015 wounded and sick, most of whom were evacuated from Foreign Medical Aid front hospitals by Foreign Medical Aid ambulances.

There have been a number of casualties. Two Divisional Medical Commanders, one Brigade Medical Commander, and three Battalion Medical Commanders have been killed. One doctor died of a contagious disease at the front, one died of illness in the rear, and one disappeared. A considerable number of stretcher bearers, ambulance drivers and others engaged in auxiliary services have been lost.

In addition to its medical work, the Foreign Medical Aid has organized seven children's homes, housing more than 600 orphans. To help these homes the wounded soldiers of the International Brigades have contributed 200,000 pesetas.



SON OF "COWBOY PHILOSOPHER" in Spain. Bill Rogers, whose father, Will Rogers, was known to millions throughout the world who saw him on the stage and screen, has just ended a visit to Spain, during which he travelled several thousand kilometers throughout the country. Through "The Volunteer" he sends his best wishes for victory to the People's Army, especially to the Fifteenth Brigade, and "especially to the fellows from the West Coast." Rogers was in Barcelona when the intense forty-hour fascist bombardment occurred, and he expects to do things about it when he returns to his native California. Among other things, Rogers said that support for the Loyalists is growing steadily in the States, and that everyone back home is proud of, and follows anxiously, the work of the Americans in the Fifteenth Brigade.

LAS FACHADAS DE LOS EDIFICIOS DE LAS CIUDADES REBELDES, CUBIERTAS DE FOTOGRAFÍAS DE MUSSOLINI, HITLER Y OLIVEIRA SALAZAR

París. — Tharaud ha publicado en « Paris-Soir » el segundo artículo sobre la España facciosa. A pesar de ser franquista, Tharaud ha quedado impresionado por la enorme cantidad de carteles espectaculares que se encuentran en todos los pueblos ocupados por los facciosos. Estos carteles presentan grandes retratos de Hitler, Mussolini y Oliveira Salazar. Mussolini está fotografiado en actitudes teatrales.

FOUR NAMES OF SILVER

Four glorious names has the Fifteenth Brigade Four Battalions of steel emerged from its depths. In the year since its birth your four sons of the soul reared to great heights the name that you gayly gave them at birth: Mackenzie-Papineau, English, Lincoln, and the Twenty-fourth. These are the four names that emerged from nothingness transforming themselves into Battalions of soldiers loyal to our Spain. You can be contented, Fifteenth Brigade, for your sons know how to win in thousands of battles! What is better than fighting well-armed.

fighting as they fight for the proletarian cause? There is no difference. They are four names of Silver. They engraved themselves in Brunete. They engraved themselves at Jarama.

They engraved themselves at Quinto and Belchite, Teruel and in many other battles. And they shall remain engraved together forever — these four names of Silver: And when the war ends with the people's victory the whole of Spain shall sing of you, Fifteenth Brigade; of your four battalions engraved in names of Silver: Mackenzie-Papineau, English, Lincoln and Twenty-fourth — your four sons of the soul!

SANTIAGO LÓPEZ
(15th Brigade Engineers)

THE BELOVED WEED

The scarcity of tobacco in Spain produces many odd phenomena, one of which is a certain type of small cigarette which is issued to the army from time to time. The Spaniards call these things « Mataquintos », which means « Rookbusters ». To others they are known as « Anti-tanks », because they are small but very nasty. A third faction refers to them as the Asbestos brand, for two reasons, one obvious, the other odious. They say that these cigarettes are as good as any made in Spain which remark is in itself a good example of war's unnecessary hardships.

Tobacco seems a little thing when a country is at war, but it makes the strain very much easier to bear. Those who still smoke in peace may not understand how

great a pleasure a cigarette can give out here. So much so that men stop when they see a cigarette butt in their path, and if it looks any good at all, pick it up and add it to their collection.

The army has little, the civilians less. An English volunteer walking with a Spaniard, offered him a cigarette from a few he had received in a letter. An old peasant happened to be passing. The Spaniard handed his cigarette to the old man, because, as he afterwards explained, the fellow loved a smoke but very seldom got one.

If our friends at home want to do us a good turn, to send tobacco is still one of the best. The more we receive from home, the more is released here for the civilian population.

NETA, LO MANTIENE CON EL PICO Y LA PALA



¡DOS DIVISIONES DE JUVENTUDES EN DIEZ DÍAS!

Millares y millares de jóvenes entusiastas y decididos, empuñan espontáneamente el fusil para defender sus libertades amenazadas, para conquistar sus derechos. Son voluntarios de la libertad, héroes de nuestra magnífica juventud, que, con su esfuerzo, logrará vencer definitivamente al fascismo.

Las masas populares del mundo entero la juventud mundial, que actualmente redoblan su esfuerzo para ayudarnos, saludan a estos nuevos voluntarios. El pueblo antifascista saluda también a esta juventud gloriosa, que marca el camino de victoria movilizandó sus recursos. Y los combatientes, los veteranos y los que acaban de incorporarse, sienten elevarse su moral, cuando saben que la juventud está dispuesta a dar todo su esfuerzo, a movilizar hasta su último recurso para aplastar al fascismo invasor de nuestro sagrado suelo.

Las dos divisiones de la Juventud, que han encontrado eco entusiasta en toda nuestra España, en toda Cataluña amenazada, van forjándose con el calor y el entusiasmo de esos millares de jóvenes que transmiten por pueblos y ciudades, por fábricas y talleres, su consigna de victoria: ¡DOS DIVISIONES EN DIEZ DIAS!

SPANISH YOUTH. The J.S.U. is in the midst of its great campaign to recruit thousands of young people for the army. Its slogan, which has already gone far toward complete fulfillment, is: "Raise Two Divisions of Youth in Ten Days!"

BRITAIN AIDS VOLUNTEERS

The Wounded and Dependents Aid Committee of Britain has just issued a report of its first six months work. Up to November 30, 1937, it had collected over 14,000 pounds and this had been given to maintain the families of the Britishers with the International Brigade and to aid the wounded who have returned home.

The fund is officially supported by the Trade Union Congress and many union Executive Committees have advised their members to give contributions. Among those who have donated money are 2,000 local and District Labour, Trade Union and political organisations.

The amalgamated Engineers Union Branches have headed the list with over 300 donations. Other Unions which have given consistent support are the Miners, Railmen, Distributive Workers and Printers.

In 100 factories collections have been taken. Some every week. In one printing works, Odhams Press, the printers of the Daily Herald, the men have subscribed 600 pounds in six months.

Since the report has been issued a Christmas appeal resulted in 2,500 pounds being subscribed. This enabled the Committee to send Christmas parcels to Spain, give extra financial assistance to the women and children, and organise big Christmas parties at which all the children received presents.

The motto of the Committee is "So long as the men in Spain carry on we also carry on."

E. H. BROWN

MODESTO CITES XV BRIGADE

Modesto, commanding the Fifth Army Corps, cited the XV Brigade for its work outside Teruel while the action was in progress. A further compliment was paid to the British Battalion for its good digging, which saved many lives. The honor of being promoted on the field to their present ranks was accorded to Major Smith and Captain Diaz of the MacPaps, and Captain Alexander of the British. These were the two Battalions who

took the severest strain of the fighting in this battle, and suffered the heaviest casualties.

In his note to the Division during the action at Segura, General Walter said:

"I am grateful to the soldiers, officers and commissars of the two Brigades, especially the XVth, for their excellent work, and wish them many more victories over the fascist hordes."

RALPH FOX



BEN LEIDER



ANTI-FASCIST CLUB in Barcelona named in their honor. At a meeting of the English-speaking section, the members unanimously voted to name their group the Ben Leider-Ralph Fox Club, in memory of two outstanding men, one American, the other English, who gave their lives to the fight against fascism in Spain.

PEASANTS GET 30 TRACTORS

The Ministry of Agriculture has purchased 30 tractors which it is distributing in the following manner:

Six to the farm schools established by the Institute of Agrarian Reform in Valencia, Cuenca and Albacete, where they will be used to instruct the peasants in tractor-driving.

Five to Aragon.

Eighteen to different parts of New Castille, where the preparation of the land for the Spring sowing is most behind hand.

One to the General Administration of Prisons, to aid in the work of land drainage being carried out in the penal colony of Albatera.

The use of these tractors will not only compensate for the decrease in animals working the land, but will also accustom the peasants to modern agricultural methods and will prepare them for a further development in this respect.

ARRANGING THINGS PROPERLY

The young battalion commissar, with a grin as broad as his shoulders, heard that the fascists had struggled into Teruel again. His grin grew broader still.

"Last time they went out of that town," he said, "they left it full. If they're coming back in, God knows they'll find it empty. Let's give them time to fill it up before we throw them out again."



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OF THE INTERNATIONAL BRIGADES

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ONE ORDER IN EVERYONE'S MIND: **RESIST** SAYS NEGRIN IN RADIO TALK TO THE NATION

(The following is the speech delivered by Dr. Juan Negrín, Prime Minister of the Spanish Republic, on March, 28, 1938)

Spaniards:

The man who is speaking to you, as head and in the name of the Government, has a right to demand of you complete confidence in his words, for he repeatedly warned you, and in happier times, of the approach of days of cruel tests such as the extremely difficult days through which we are at present passing.

We are passing through hard times. The invading army has undertaken a very violent offensive in which it is employing a huge quantity of war material. This offensive, by the very manner in which it is being carried out, reflects in reality the frightened haste of the invaders to modify the map of Europe in their own favour by annexing Spain before they are asphyxiated by the wave of indignation which is sweeping the world as a result of the designs of the aggressors on peaceful peoples. Day by day this indignation is mounting, and it is beginning to assume tremendous proportions.

But in the very haste with which they are attempting to convert our country into a colony lies the seed of their failure because our glorious Army, with the entire Spanish people at its side, is undertaking to convert this haste into a pause. Our soldiers have been obliged to abandon positions, but they



have done this after having put up superhuman resistance to the combined attacks of the foreign air force, artillery, and tanks. The invading army has been able to verify that it is no easy undertaking, whatever means may be employed, to drive back an army like our own, consisting of Spaniards who are defending the dignity and the independence of their country and, at the same time, the principles of law, justice and peace. These principles are dear to all peoples, and however disdained they may be in other parts, they retain their everlasting virtue in Spain.

HEROISM OF THE ARMY AND AIR FORCE

In Upper and Lower Aragon, our soldiers, the Spanish soldiers, are carrying out acts of heroism which excel any recorded by history. Even the foreign press, which is hostile to us, has been obliged to admit with what fortitude and bravery the Republican Army has borne the avalanches of fire of the foreign air forces and artillery; how our soldiers have fearlessly faced the hundreds of tasks of the invaders; how they have allowed themselves to be crushed by these tanks rather than open the coil of our fatherland to them. And the enemy has not merely encountered resistance. The Army of the Republic has fought with such heroism that in some battles it has captured Italian prisoners and tanks. And our aviators, the avia-

tors who do not machine-gun women and children in the rear, but who, outnumbered, face the huge air force sent by Italy and Germany and, by impeding the barbarous action of the enemy in the air, are writing pages of glory.

Our entire people are shaken with pride by the heroic deeds of the Army, which shows that its soldiers know how to carry themselves like Spaniards.

THE WILL TO CONQUER AND THE UNITY OF OUR PEOPLE

This heroism, this unselfishness of the Army of the Republic, are merely the reflection of the entire Spanish people to cause the plans of our country's enemies to fail. This is shared by all honourable Spaniards, by all the good and industrious people of our country, because they all know what it would mean to be reduced to the vile condition of colonial vassals of Italian and German fascism. **This is understood by country and city workers, by small industrialists, the middle class, and the intellectuals. They know that it not only means oppression, ruin and misery, but also physical annihilation. They know well the murders and persecutions carried out in the countries where fascism has imposed itself and the voices of those who have been assassinated in the part of Spain they have taken from us resound in their ears.**

The Basques know what fascism has done to their country, where all their beloved traditions have been cruelly trodden under foot.

The Catalans are not unaware that one of the most important aims of our enemies is the brutal elimination of the liberties which Catalonia achieved following the establishment of the Republic. They can see this in the measures adopted in fascist territory, where it is considered a crime to use the Catalan language.

This conviction on the part of our people of what the triumph of fascism would mean for them compels all Spaniards to unite firmly in order to bar its passage. The Government is continually receiving from all corners of Republican Spain, from cities and villages, from the fronts and the rear, testimonies of support and words of encouragement to continue the struggle undismayed until victory is achieved. These messages of support are proof that Spain is mobilised for the war, that the Government is receiving not only words of loyalty but active support.

The Spanish people, spurred by their deepest feeling, love of independence, are doing everything they can.

THIS GOVERNMENT IS A WAR GOVERNMENT

These words of loyalty and this active support constitute an inexhaustible reserve of energy upon which the Government will draw

and which it will know to use, for it is able and wishes to show to its people that it knows how to be a war government, a government worthy of the people.

The effectives of our Army will be increased by drawing on the reserves of volunteers who are now presenting themselves. Specialised workers will be incorporated into fortification brigades; and in this way a double barrier of cement and soldiers will be created against which the enemies of Spain, of the civilised world, and of peace, will end by destroying themselves. Implacable action will be taken against the cowards, against the feeble-hearted, and against those who are not able to rise to the level of the magnificent deeds which the Spanish people are performing. **In the struggle against these elements the Government will be in the lead, and I myself at the head of it.**

INVINCIBILITY OF OUR CAUSE

Let us realise that our strength is incalculable. The confidence and affection of the people for the Government of the Republic, which are shown in a thousand ways, are not enjoyed by our enemies. In their rear there are millions of Spaniards who do not wish to see their country in the hands of foreigners; and in the ranks of their Army, not only among the soldiers but also among their officers there is growing a patriotic feeling, as well as a fervent desire that the Republic be victorious in spite of all difficulties, so that it may guarantee the independence of Spain.

We are more numerous than they, and we are fighting for a worthy cause, which cannot be conquered either by the steel or by the gunpowder which they are receiving from abroad, as payment for their treason.

And to the people who are supporting us and giving us inspiration we of the Government assure and ratify in full the declaration made to the Cortes to the effect that **this is not a Government of pacts, capitulations, or compromises. The Government will fulfil firmly, without weakness or vacillation, the mission it received when it was formed, namely, that of defending the independence of Spain.** And this it will do not only because it wishes to honour its word, but because it is convinced that by persisting in the defence of Spain it will achieve victory. The military situation is difficult, and we do not attempt to conceal this fact. But the difficulty is, fortunately, not insuperable. We insist that the two foreign nations which first provoked the Spanish Civil War and which then converted it into a war of invasion are trying by all possible means within their reach to hasten the end. They are in a hurry to put an end to the independence of Spain because they are convinced, just as we are, that time is against them. Every day of resistance is a day gained for Spain.

CATALONIA WILL BE ANOTHER MADRID

The assurances which the Government gave the Army regarding war material are not vain ones. If there is resistance, there will be war material. Or, to put it more clearly: if we resist, we shall obtain the victory which we desire. There must be only one order in everyone's mind: resist! This order is all the more sacred in view of the fact that it is the mandate of the Spanish fatherland which, in these moments of trial, calls to all Spaniards alike, upon those fighting at the front and those working in the rear — to resist. The summons is final and decisive. All our capacity for sacrifice must be set on foot. With much or with little material, with bread or without bread, we must resist. The soldier at the front, the worker in the workshop, the woman in the home, and the child in the school must resist. Every day of resistance causes an upset in the plans of the invaders, which they attempt to offset by increasing the violence of their air raids on open cities. They try to break the morale of the Spanish people in order to weaken their spirit and to overcome the threat of delay. And now they are speculating with the idea that the Catalan people are incapable of repeating the brave resistance of the people of Madrid. We are convinced of the contrary. We place our faith in the Catalan people whom we believe to be capable of rivalling all the peoples of the earth in heroism in the same way as we were certain of the impregnability of Madrid.

Catalonia wishes to fulfil her destiny and this destiny can be fulfilled only within an independent and Republican Spain. The very spirit of Catalonia is made up of liberal ideals. Neither she nor her sons were made for colonial slavery. The invading armies will find her determined to put up a united and vigorous resistance. And by this resistance Catalonia will save herself and contribute to the salvation of Spain. All her material and moral energies are urgently demanded, but they are demanded with hope. The effort of Catalonia will not be lost just as no effort on the part of the Spanish people has been lost. We have needed the efforts of all the Spaniards in order to make the outside world see the Spanish war in its exact setting.

THE DEMOCRACIES HAVE NOT HELPED US

The democracies of Europe have not desired or have not been able to spare us suffering. They denied us what we needed to suppress the insurrection, and their denial has caused us untold losses of blood and has had the final result of converting this war into a war of invasion which is also a grave menace to the peace of Europe. The deception of the European democracies has caused incalculable damage to our country. But this damage will be small compared to that which will be

caused to Europe unless, as one may legitimately expect, the democracies of Europe decide to emerge from their hiding-place of fears and vacillations. This hope, which is not only a hope of Spain, but of the whole world, cannot be frustrated in Spain. We are determined to prolong resistance. We feel strong and calm. We ask the soldiers to be heroic and we ask the civilian population to be confident. Whatever trials the enemy may put us to, we ask the people for resistance. The Government conserves intact the spirit in which it was born: it remains faithful to the desires of the people. It intends to achieve victory and if, as the Government is certain, the mobilisation of material resources and moral energy, for which it calls, is responded to with enthusiasm, it will achieve victory.

The situation is difficult, we admit. But fortunately for our cause it is neither more nor less difficult than other painful stages which were overcome. And the present stage will also be overcome. We shall with a collective effort rise to the difficulty and reconquer the land we have lost, which is clamouring for the return of its independence. Catalonia will help us with her enthusiasm as a liberal people to achieve this reconquest. Her nerve centre, the proletariat and the middle classes, maintain from olden times the unbreakable resolution not to yield their freedom to the aggression of the invader. Catalonia has spontaneously raised the order to resist. May the whole of loyal Spain imitate her resolution and copy her firmness. May the heroism of the soldiers be answered by the heroism of the workers. May the shovels and the picks help the work entrusted to the rifles. May the spirit of the people show itself in an overpowering and decisive manner. In short, may the will of all, full of determination, be concentrated energetically on the fronts, where the battle for victory is in progress. Resist, resist, and resist! Produce, produce, and produce! With every day of resistance and labour we achieve a new chance of victory. He who deserts his post is a traitor. He who allows his will to be broken is a traitor. He who utters words of discouragement is a traitor. Now that the destinies of Spain are at stake, we can only have a fever of heroism and passion for service. In the presence of the world and in the tragic intimacy of our country the Government says to all Spaniards:

On with resistance to the invader! Perseverance in the defence of our independence! By resisting and persevering we shall conquer.

When it rallies you to resistance, the Government knows that it is not asking a useless sacrifice of you. Every week, every day which we gain serves to compensate for the inequality in material between ourselves and the enemy. Since I spoke to you and assured you that the prospects regarding an increase in war material were favourable, the power

THE VOLUNTEER FOR LIBERTY

of the Republican Army has increased considerably. Had this not been so, the present resistance would not have been possible. It is only in aircraft that the rhythm has not been accelerated sufficiently to avoid the superiority of the enemy. But our tenacity will not yield and we shall also succeed in dominating them in the air. Hundreds and hundreds of young Spanish pilots are waiting for a plane to be given to them so that they can oppose and defeat Italians and Germans.

THE FARCE OF NON-INTERVENTION

To those foreigners who still insist on shutting their eyes to evidence, who at the beginning of Non-Intervention denied the arrival of German and Italian planes, who declared they did not believe our exposure of the accumulation of regular Italian and German divisions — to which the Pharasaic name of «volunteers» has been given — who with the greatest hypocrisy have coined the expression of the «unknown submarine» in order to avoid obligations and compromises, who believe that the swarms of enemy planes which are razing our land have been spontaneously born of themselves, I should recommend, if, as they indicate, they do not trust their own information services, that they read and verify the concrete data on the arrival of war material and war technicians formulated today by our own Minister of National Defence.

Let them reflect whether the German ships which unloaded twenty-eight centimeter guns in Bilbao and which conveyed modern heavy artillery to Pasajes to be placed along the Franco-Spanish frontier, and those which have transported powerful material, long-range and fixed artillery, to Melilla and other places, let them reflect, I repeat, whether they believe that this material is to be used for fighting on the fronts in Aragon, the Centre, Levante, or Andalusia. And if they believe that the German technicians who are coming to settle definitely with their families have come for such a long stay merely to assure the triumph of the fascist, let us repeat once again:

That our struggle is not a civil war; it is a defence against the invasion and tyrannisation of Spain by foreigners. The error of those fascists who believe that their triumph would be the triumph of Franco and his Phalanx is a grave one. No. Their triumph would mean the offering up of generations of Spanish youth in a future war, who would be sacrificed in foreign lands on the altars of Italian and German interests. It would mean the iniquitous slavery of our people by those who, ingrained in the belief of a proud superiority engendered by their sheep-like servility, feel in their heart of hearts a profound contempt for a people whose greatness, nobility and virtues they have never learned to understand.

What is taking place in Spain is not a fight of ideologies. Our land is being stained with blood as the prelude, which were it not for the efforts of our people would be decisive, of a dispute for the hegemony first of Europe and then of the world. And whatever may be our political and social conceptions, whatever may be the soil which we call our fatherland, every man who feels the pride of his country and of his race cannot but arise against those who, owing to the fact that they consider themselves a new chosen people, wish to submit the rest to vassalage. Therefore, Spain, by defending herself is defending the entire world.

FAITH IN VICTORY

Faith in victory, Spaniards! Spain will not allow herself to be devoured. Spain will not surrender, and a people who do not surrender cannot be conquered. The conduct of Spain is an example for the whole world. And in all parts it is already known that on Spain's fate depends the fate of all the free and peaceful countries which are threatened by the greed of fascism. Let certain countries not forget that if the battles which the Spanish people are today fighting were adverse to us in their final results, they would have at their back an Army of a million men ready to attack them.

The world is on our side. Millions of men and women in all countries are following our struggle with anxiety. The cause of Spain today influences and moves the life of all countries which have not been converted into a gaol. Let us all be worthy of the admiration shown to us, of the confidence everywhere in our victory. Let us show the world a noble effort to save our country by hastening every one of us to fulfil the posts in which we are needed. When they see our unbreakable determination to conquer, millions of people throughout the world will be stimulated with new ardour to help us.

All to the struggle! Let us mobilise all our energies!

Officers of the Army: Remember that you are following the tradition of the heroes who in the past know how to destroy the invaders.

War Commissars: You are the interpreters in the Army of the humane and just cause which our people are defending. Continue your brilliant record of unselfishness and heroism!

Soldiers: Continue your heroic defence of the soil of Spain. Resist, resist! Your Government will give you the means to do so and the means to attack later and destroy the enemy.

Spaniards: Confidence in triumph. Onwards!

Long live the Republic!

Long live Spain!



The VOLUNTEER FOR LIBERTY

organ of the international brigades



Vol. II - No. 15

Barcelona, April 9 - 1938

DEFENSE WORK SWEEPS FORWARD AS GOVERNMENT IS STRENGTHENED

A Cabinet meeting was held in the residence of the Prime Minister with the object of handing over the portfolios to the members of the new Government.

At its conclusion the following note was handed to journalists:

Now that the Government has been reorganised it addresses itself to all those Spaniards, at the front and in the rearguard, as well as in rebel territory, who are struggling against the armies of the invader. The Government proclaims its absolute determination to continue the war for the independence of Spain until it has freed all Spanish soil from those who have attacked and invaded it, assisted by the most monstrous international conspiracy that the world has ever seen.

In this determination, it counts on its People's Army, which on the Centre Front, in Extremadura, in Andalusia and in Levante, is not only holding its positions with invincible firmness, but these days is undeniably proving its strong offensive spirit by enthusiastically coming to the aid of the more threatened sectors.

As regards Catalonia, the heroism with which our soldiers are fighting on the Eastern Front is a sign of their iron-like tenacity, and the German and Italian armies, deceived by the easy successes of their first advances, have as yet no idea of what the war for the freedom of Catalonia will be like.

It remains for Catalonia to move the world with an impetus which will halt the enemy and put a stop to the fascist atrocities, the mass executions, the bombing of the civilian population and the regime of slavery which makes men into pawns; an enemy which has so outraged

CABINET MEMBERS

The new war Government is now composed of the following leaders:

PREMIER AND NATIONAL DEFENSE, don Juan Negrín López, (S. P.).

STATE, don Julio Álvarez del Vayo, (S. P.).

GOVERNMENT, don Paulino Gómez Sáiz, (S. P.).

JUSTICE, don Ramón González Peña, (U. G. T.).

AGRICULTURE, don Vicente Uribe, (C. P.).

PUBLIC INSTRUCTION AND SANITATION, don Segundo Blanco González, (C. N. T.).

FINANCE AND ECONOMY, don Francisco Méndez Aspe, (L. R.).

PUBLIC WORKS, don Antonio Velao Oñate, (L. R.).

COMMUNICATIONS AND TRANSPORT, don Bernardo Giner de los Ríos, (U. R.).

LABOR, don Jaime Aguadé, (L. R. of C.).

MINISTERS WITHOUT PORTFOLIO, don José Giral, (L. R.), and D. Manuel de Irujo, (Basque National Party).

HIGH POSTS

SUBSECRETARY OF FINANCE, don Adolfo Sixto Hontán.

SECRETARY-GENERAL OF THE MINISTRY FOR NATIONAL DEFENSE, don Julián Zugazagoitia (Ex-Minister of Government of the previous Government).

THE FOLLOWING APPOINTMENTS OF SUBSECRETARIES HAVE BEEN MADE:

STATE, don Quero Molares

AVIATION, don Carlos Núñez Mazas

MARINE, don Alfonso Játiva

ARMY, don Antonio Cerdón

PUBLIC INSTRUCTION, don Puig Elías

DIRECTOR GENERAL OF PROPAGANDA, don Javier Buenó

also Minister for National Defence, has demanded and obtained from the Cabinet the maximum authority to act both in punishing those who deserve to be punished and in purging the key positions which are essential for victory, with the speed and the energy which the gravity of the circumstances demands.

For the execution of all this the Government feels that it is empowered with supreme authority, which it derives from the elements of which it is composed, i.e. from the fact that it is a true Government of national unity.

In foreign affairs the Cabinet has taken cognizance of the wording of a note addressed to the French and British Governments.

The Government of the Republic, which is full of confidence in victory and inspired by the idea of a Spain of the future free from all foreign domination, in greeting the combatants of the Army, the Air Force and the Fleet, proudly welcomes those thousands of soldiers of the Army of the East, who, after crossing into France, demanded a post of honour in the lines of fire. These men are, for those who think only of saving themselves, an example of patriotism which should strengthen the will of all in the land we are defending; while for those abroad, who feign ignorance of the real state of opinion of the Spanish people, they are a demonstration which equals any plebiscite.

The Government of the Republic, confident of the enthusiastic collaboration of the entire Spanish people, does not plunge into a mass of words, but immediately set to work and begins from this moment to work as a war Government.

Spanish feelings by the foreign totalitarian methods of war and which hopes to make this glorious Catalonia a victim of its frenzied hate.

In order to rise to the level of the heroism of our troops and to assure them that none of their sacrifices will be in vain and that they shall be led to victory by

men resolved at all costs to win the war, the Government at today's meeting has decided not only to bring about a reconcentration of the Nation's forces, but also to make the entire weight of Republican law fall pitilessly and instantaneously on the traitors and on the cowards.

The Prime Minister, who is



RICARDO DIAZ of the MAC - PAPS

When I asked Capt. Diaz to give me his life story, he smiled and said it was unimportant. This time Capt. Diaz was wrong. The lives of all anti-fascists are important in these decisive days, especially those who have proved themselves capable of leadership where the struggle has sharpened to war.

Ricardo Diaz is small, but tough. He was born into a family where the cause of the working class was already a tradition. Diaz entered into his tradition and never found a reason to turn aside. In early days he came up against that opposition to those who stand up for the rights of the workers which all of us have encountered in one form or another. These experiences toughen a man, but at the same time they make him more human. Diaz has learned the value of good comradeship; his toughness is not the hard brutality of the man who fights only for himself. Diaz greets you with an unaffected air of welcome that makes you feel he likes you as much as you like him.

His first years were spent in Africa. His father worked as a mason in Tangier, and occupied his spare time with political work. Young Ricardo followed suit, and before long was serving on a Committee of Action, which, as its name suggests, continually and inevitably collided with the opposition. As a result Ricardo had several prison sentences to his credit before the Civil War broke out, and was well acquainted with the fascist mentality.

When he heard that military rebellion had broken out in Spain, he sailed for Barcelona and enlisted in the militia. His unit marched up to the Huesca front, armed mainly with sticks. We who know the Republican Army as it is today would imagine that without rifles



nobody could hold a position, let alone advance. The militia advanced. Capt. Diaz states that the defending troops were men of the Civil Guard, and at the first approach of opponents who clearly meant business they ran away. One hill held out, and then the militia were stumped, until the Durruti Column came up with rifles and stormed the position.

Diaz left Aragon and was sent down to Madrid, where he joined the newly-formed 14th International Brigade. His fluent command of French was a useful talent among the French volunteers. He

FORTIFICAR ES VENCER



could also speak to the Moor in their own language when the prisoners started coming in. These were the days when the Moors crept up at night and used their knives; they were also the days when the Moors fell in hundreds in front of our machine guns, while Madrid stood triumphantly untaken.

In course of time Diaz was sent to the Officers' School of the Internationals, and after working through the course went on to join the new MacPap Battalion at the training camp. He came up with this battalion to join the XV Brigade and went into action at Fuentes, after which he received Lieutenant's rank.

In the action at Teruel in January he was one of three officers of our Brigade who received the special honour of being promoted on the field, under recommendation from Modesto, commanding the Fifth Army Corps. His company occupied the dangerous position on the Battalion's flank. There are men in that company who state that they owe their lives to Diaz and two or three others, who at great risk to themselves took up a position from which they were able to protect the withdrawal of this group with effective covering fire. Subsequently in the attack on Atalaya Diaz's company was selected to go forward as advance guard because it was considered an especially reliable unit. At the present time Capt. Diaz is acting commander of the MacPaps while Major Smith is away.

I asked him for his estimate of the present military situation. He smiled again and said he was no prophet; but it looked to him as if Franco was making a big push under orders from his masters in Germany and Italy, who wanted

the war won quickly and their material returned. If that is the case, he went on, our first and all-important duty is to make our lines impregnable in the face of all fresh fascist efforts—in other words, to fortify and stand firm. Franco's strength will break on our solid resistance, and his masters' wishes will prove impossible to carry out. Meanwhile his temporary successes have done us one good turn. They have awakened those elements in the rearguard who were still sleeping. From now on we shall see better coordination and a faster rate of work. Strengthened in the rear and fortified in the front, we shall weaken the power of the fascist drive, and finally turn it until we press forward ourselves and hasten the day of victory.

"And then?" I asked. "What do you plan to do when the war has been won?"

This time Capt. Diaz laughed outright. He said that he was far too busy to think about what he would do after the war. He had a "novia" in Africa. He would marry her and return to Spain to continue working for the Spanish people. There would still be much to do. More than that he could not say.



LA OCUPACION ALEMANA DE LA ESPAÑA REBELDE

Londres, 25. — La revista conservadora *National Review* comenta en su número de febrero, que acaba de publicarse, la incautación alemana de los recursos mineros de la España rebelde en los términos siguientes:

«Los alemanes no han derrochado sus esfuerzos; no apoyan al general Franco más que en beneficio propio. Todo lo que dicen acerca de la «derrota del bolchevismo» es sólo para convencer a los tonos de aquí y de otros sitios. Alemania ha visto en dónde estaba su suerte, y la aprovechado. Si la guerra continúa, hasta puede tener colonias, pues está profundamente arraigada en los territorios españoles de Ultramar, y, aunque el general no desee desprenderse de estos territorios, puede, como Felipe V, verse obligado a hacerlo.»

Hay, por lo menos, cuatro o cinco organizaciones alemanas, muy activas y poderosas, que trabajan para asegurar el control de los más importantes yacimientos de mineral de hierro en la España rebelde y en el Marruecos español.

La revista añade que la Compañía principal parece ser la «Isma» cuyo personal técnico dirigente está constituido por expertos químicos e industriales experimentados que hablan español.

THEY MUST

Comrades, we are in the midst of lies in our power to resist. Trained tanks and aviation, are plowing the barbarous rule of fascism on the ground.

Catalonia will never allow itself to be mobilizing at a feverish pace to dependence.

The Spanish people know what know that by capitulating to the on would be giving themselves up to the Italy; they would be sacrificing the jurisdictional rights and their language oppressors; they, would lose their nation's riches for social purposes.

Already our men at the front are rifles, new cannons and more equipment, but a vast improvement has taken place. The greater the resistance shown be had for our soldiers.

The unmistakable motto today and FORTIFY ON THE SPOT.

Seventeen months ago Madrid fell, but this brave people not the city, but drove ahead to inflict a blow. What the Madrileños could do now. Madrid was saved not by a mere firm determination not to let them pass.

The fascists are frantically trying must not be allowed to take another the Republic of Spain, and the freed whole civilized world. RESIST WITH



Esta misma organización posee el monopolio de la exportación del mineral de hierro del Marruecos español. Los agentes alemanes trabajan de acuerdo con los abastecedores germanos de material de guerra — aviones, ametralladoras, rifles y armamento de todas clases — a los rebeldes, y como ni unos ni otros tienen dinero para pagarse mutuamente, han firmado un amplio acuerdo de *clearing*, a fin de liquidar sus deudas y créditos. Los ingleses han sido recientemente autorizados para procurarse una pequeña cantidad de mineral de hierro, merced a la intervención del general Franco, y a asegurarse divisas extranjeras; pero, sepámoslo o no, el control de todos los cargamentos de mineral de hierro está sometida a la aprobación de la compañía «Isma», que posee el monopolio de éste.

"WITH HIS OWN BODY HE SHIELDED ME..."

Attached to the British Battalion when we went into action at Fuentes de Ebro last October were two American comrades, Sam Kaplan and another (whose name I never knew), whose great courage in volunteering to get me to safety when I was badly wounded cost them their lives. Realising that my condition was bad, Lieutenant F. Morris from Wales and another English comrade decided they would place me on a stretcher, and with the assistance of the two Americans, who were to act as relays, make a dash for the ambulance which was located in a sunken road some 400 metres from the trench.

We started from the ambulance, but we had barely begun to move when suddenly we were met by a burst of machine gun fire from the fascist lines. The only thing that could be done then was for the stretcher-bearers to take me to a patch of ground where I would be comparatively safe from their fire, and this was accordingly done.

But almost immediately the two American comrades fell, one killed outright, and the other, Sam Ka-

plan of Brooklyn, N. Y., mortally wounded.

Turning off the stretcher on to the ground, I received another bullet in the arm, but it was slight. Fortunately it did not penetrate the limb; it just grazed through the fleshy part.

As I crawled along the ground, attempting to make the trench again, I reached Sam Kaplan, who by this time was bleeding profusely from the nose and mouth. With what may have been his last breath, he told me, in a forced whisper, to get my head close down near his chest, as another bullet wouldn't make any difference to him any more but might kill me. With his own body he shielded me from harm.

As long as I live and breathe, I will carry on the fight for which Sam Kaplan lived and died. And I will always remember this American comrade whose great courage, even as he lay there dying, made it possible for me to carry on, and to write these words.

JOHN PATTERSON
No. 1, Company British Battalion
15th. Brigade.

UN MANIFIESTO DE LAS SOCIEDADES ESPAÑOLAS DE TAMPA

Las sociedades españolas residentes en Tampa (Estado de Florida. — Estados Unidos de América), han redactado un importante manifiesto, que susciben el Centro Español, el Centro Asturiano, los Caballeros Leales de América y Acción Gallega.

«Nuestra Patria está invadida por tropas extranjeras — afirma el manifiesto —, de lo que son únicos y verdaderos responsables los traidores a España, los fascistas, los rebeldes al legítimo Gobierno de la República.»

Más adelante, entre otras cosas, el manifiesto dice:

«No es posible que haya vacilación alguna en la actuación de los españoles de América: la indiferencia sería tan criminal como el apoyar a quienes, excusándose en falsos pretextos, pretenden hacer de nuestra Patria un país para sus explotaciones coloniales. Los españoles de América que, al abandonar el suelo patrio, lo hicieron en busca de ambientes donde nuestros esfuerzos pudieran traducirse en mejoras de nuestras vidas, negaríamos nuestras condiciones de hombres de trabajo, de hombres amantes de la libertad, si no acudiésemos a ponernos al lado del pueblo del cual salimos un día. Hoy, ante los hechos comprobados, sólo pueden persistir en el engaño aquellos cegados por odio lo por la inconsciencia que no quieren aceptar tales hechos.»

El manifiesto hace seguidamente un llamamiento a la unión de todos los españoles residentes en América, para prestar ayuda al pueblo español invadido por el fascismo internacional.

Se sabe que son ya muchas las entidades y particulares españoles que han correspondido con su entusiasta adhesión al manifiesto de las sociedades hispanas de Tampa y que este llamamiento ha despertado viva simpatía incluso en los sectores más alejados de la conciencia española.

UN CALUROSO SALUDO DEL MAYOR ATTLEE A LOS SOLDADOS DE LA COMPAÑÍA QUE LLEVA SU NOMBRE

El mayor C. R. Attlee, jefe de la oposición parlamentaria británica, que tan inequívocamente ha demostrado su simpatía a la causa republicana española, ha dirigido recientemente al capitán de la compañía «Major Attlee», de las Brigadas Internacionales, una carta en la que se declara complacido sobremedida por haber leído la mención especial que de esa compañía se hace en la orden del día por su notable actuación en la batalla de Terner.

Anteriormente, el mayor Attlee, con ocasión de su visita a la España republicana, en el pasado diciembre, había hecho llegar su saludo entusiasta a las Brigadas Internacionales, y en especial al batallón británico, mostrándose orgulloso del prestigio que habían sabido ganar sus compatriotas en la lucha por la libertad y la independencia de España, y prometiéndoles dar testimonio fiel, a su regreso a Inglaterra, de cuanto en nuestra patria había visto.

NOT PASS!

critical days. The future of our victory an infantry aided by corps of artillery, in fields of free Spain and posting their and they occupy.

to be dominated by fascism. Its people me to the defense of their national in-

it would mean to lose the war. They oughts of the invading army, they colonization schemes of Germany and autonomous regions, their traditions, freedom to their former landlords and social legislation, the use of the nation's culture, liberty and life itself.

received more war material: new arms. This is of course not adequate as place. More — much more — is on the invaders, the more equipment can

must be: RESIST AT ALL COSTS

ed the same difficult days we are fully crushed the enemy at the gates of body defeat to the Italians at Guadalupe those hard days we can and must do le, but by desperate resistance and a

to break our lines of resistance. They go forward. Too much is at stake: — and liberties of the peoples of the EVERY OUNCE OF STRENGTH!



CANADA PAYS TRIBUTE TO 15TH BRIGADE



Above is shown the stage of the Massey Hall meeting in Toronto, Canada, at which the first anniversary of the 15th International Brigade in Spain was celebrated. Draped across the back of the

stage was a huge banner carrying paintings of Mackenzie and Papineau, while the four large portraits were those of Neilo Makela, Joe Dallet, Bob Kerr and Ed Cecil-Smith.

BRITISH VOLUNTEER'S STORY POST CARD OF CAPTURE AND ESCAPE

FROM SPAIN
ADDRESSED TO ALABAMA

So down the road we marched, and when we came in sight of the bridge we observed a body of men about fifty strong on the side of the road. I halted the boys and detailed a patrol of six to go ahead and find out who they were. I told young Luis Sanchez to go with the patrol to do the talking (he was our Spanish Political Adjutant). The patrol moved ahead slowly, too slow, in fact, for my liking, so I walked up after them, followed by Bobby Walker, Joe Norman and Harry Dobson.

When we got in line with this group about fourteen of them came onto the road with rifles pointed at us, shouting "Manos arriba!" They then lined us up and started frisking us for guns. While this was going on, one of them was demanding money, watches and pistols.

There we were, stood up reaching for the sky, when I happened to catch Bobby Walker's eye.

"What are they, Sam, fascists?" said Bobby. I nodded.

"O. K.," he whispered, "Yes", I said, "let it go".

Then wham! Bobby's fist elevated the chin of the nearest fascist and then the fun started. I kicked the legs from under one, Dobson

hit one with a tin of bully in a sandbag and everybody in a bunch contributed to the free fight. What with fists and feet flying and guns a-popping it was real lively.

We all managed to get away.

with the exception of young Sanchez. Bobby had to swim the Ebro and finished on the road naked, but nevertheless O. K. The remainder of us are still arguing which of us beat Jesse Owens' record.



No ceder un solo palmo de terreno al enemigo. Defender bien cada posición conquistada. Mantener fuertes nuestras líneas. Fortificar, fortificar, fortificar. Es el gran deber del soldado, mandos y comisarios.

Lincoln-Washington Battalion,
April, 1938

Dear Folks at home:

I went out this mornin',
Old shells was a-fallin',
Wistlin' and a-fallin'
When I went out this mornin'.

I'm way over here
A long ways from home,
Over here in Spanish country
But I don't feel alone.

Folks over here don't treat me
Like white folks used to do.
When I was home they treated me
Just like they treatin' you.

I don't think things'll ever
Be like that again:
I done met up with folks
Who'll fight for me
Like I'm fightin' now for Spain.

Salud.

Johny
LANGSTON HUGHES



The VOLUNTEER FOR LIBERTY

Organ of the international brigades



Vol. II - No. 16

Barcelona, April 13 - 1938

G. H. Q. OF THE ARMY OF THE EAST REORGANIZED AND STRENGTHENED

The Ministry of National Defense has completely reconstituted the General Staff of the Army of the East.

General Don Sebastian Pozas is no longer in command of the Army of the East, but is replaced by Lt.-Col. Don Juan Perea. Eduardo Castillo, Commissar of the Army of the East, is replaced by Don Ignacio Mantecon.

The Chief of Staff of the Army, Lt.-Col. Javier Linares, is replaced by Major Don Aniceto Cavajal.

The Defense Ministry's note states:

•The troops of the Army of the East are hereby divided into two main sectors. The Northern Sector will be commanded by Lt.-Col. Don Javier Linares, and the Southern Sector by Lt.-Col. Don Antonio Cordon (since this note was issued, Lt.-Col. Cordon has been given the post of Undersecretary of War in the new government). The Commissar of the Northern Sector will be Don Manuel Molina Maten, and the Commissar of the Southern Sector, Don Joaquin Alamedros Jimenez.

With these changes, and with the steady arrival and accumulation of more and better material of war of all kinds, the Command is expected to strengthen materially the situation on all fronts within the very near future.

Soldiers: Continue your heroic defense of the Soil of Spain. Resist, resist! Your Government will give you the means to do so, and the means to attack later and destroy the enemy.

Spaniards: Confidence in triumph. Onwards!

Long live the Republic!

Long live Spain!

Dr. JUAN NEGRIN



VOLUNTEERS RECRUITED

In view of the initiative of certain political parties and trade union organizations to encourage the recruiting of volunteers, the Minister of National Defense in the Gazette, published an order dated April 1, 1938, laying down conditions for the enlistment of volunteers.

They must be between the ages of 17 and 45 and not included in the levies already called up for military service. They must, moreover, undertake to serve in the Army until the war is over.

Enlisting may be done in places where there is no official military representative, through the local Municipal Council.

JOHN LITTLE BRINGS GREETINGS OF U. S. YOUTH

Bringing with him the greetings and solidarity of thousands of young Americans, John Little, N. Y. State Executive Secretary of the Y. C. L., arrived in Spain last week for an extended visit during which he hopes to spend as much time with the men of the Fifteenth Brigade as his many self-imposed jobs will permit.

Little entered Spain on April 2, bringing with him a shipment of 1,000,000 American cigarettes and ten large crates of personal packages for the Americans in the Brigade -- tangible expressions of the aforementioned greetings and solidarity. He plans to get all the information necessary to insure continuous communication between us and our friends at home, and to report back to the Friends of the Lincoln on what is most needed by the men. The shipment of cigarettes, incidentally, is a gift of the National Executive Committee of the Y. C. L.

You will probably have already seen and spoken with Comrade Little by the time this number of *The Volunteer* reaches the brigade. And, if all goes well, you will also have received that personal package. As for the cigarettes, everybody, including Comrade Little, is moving mountains in the effort to speed them to the brigade -- and at the same time hoping for the best.

Six weeks is the period of time John Little plans to remain with us -- and judging from his first week, the entire stay will be a crowded one. He has already seen and interviewed members of the J. S. U.; he has been with the English-speaking comrades in one of the new I. B. hospitals not far from Barcelona, and he has been up to the Lerida front, visiting the Campesinos with several Cuban-American comrades.

It was on his trip to Lerida that he got his first first-hand taste

of the Spanish war. Approaching the town, they drove right into one of those accurate artillery barrages that seem to box up a moving body wherever it goes.

(Continued on page 5)

FASCIST BOMBS KILL 10,000 KIDS BEHIND LINES

The following statistics show the number of children who have fallen victims to fascist bombardments from July 1936 to the end of March 1938:

Madrid (city)	879	1,386
Barcelona	598	1,010
Valencia	320	416
Asturias	1,214	2,000
Bizkadi	691	1,165
Guadalajara and Madrid Provin- ces	2,870	2,640
Santander and Province	1,247	1,800
Jaen and Provin- ce	211	355
Ciudad Real, Cuenca and Al- bacete Provin- ces	2,011	1,974
Catalonia (exclu- ding Barcelona)	1,647	2,472
Total	10,700	15,320

CANNONS AND PLANES FOR SPAIN!

(See page 3)

SPANISH PEOPLES FRONT MESSAGE THANKS PEOPLE OF GREAT BRITAIN

Heartfelt thanks were expressed to the people of England by the Spanish People's Front for their strong sympathy to the Loyal cause in a message signed by 7 political and trade union organizations recently. The message is signed by the following parties and Trade Union bodies: Republican Union Party, Left Republican Party, Socialist Party, Communist Party, General Union of Workers, National Confederation of Labor, and the Iberian Anarchist Federation.

The message follows:

The Spanish People's Front, the symbol of Spanish Democracy, wish to testify to the people of England their gratitude for the tremendous interest they are taking in our cause. The Spanish People's Front know very well that the sympathy shown to them by the people of England is little by little opening the eyes of the world to an understanding of the real meaning of our struggle and of the immense responsibility the democratic nations have taken upon themselves by the way in which they have abandoned us. The people of England, like all other peoples, are free of blame. It is sufficient for us to know that we have been properly understood by the mass of the English people for our faith to be strengthened and for our enthusiasm to increase. We are very concerned, as is only logical, with the outcome of our struggle. But we are even more concerned that the peoples should uphold our cause, although we regret that, for notorious difficulties, they cannot help us in the necessary degree. We desire victory and we shall struggle for this. But we wish our triumph to have the support of the free peoples and the approval of the democratic masses. Therefore the support of the people of England is more than comforting to us and strengthens our unbending determination to conquer. In view of the fact that we wish to conquer and because we desire that tomorrow our victory may mean brotherhood, confidence and friendship between ourselves and all peoples, the support of these peoples to-day forms a compromise which binds us as strongly as moral ties, which for us are of the greatest value.

It is surprising that the old nations, which by force of hard and



cruel struggles have throughout history proved themselves symbols of our civilisation, should not clearly understand why the Spanish Republic, which took upon itself the task of transforming our country by lawful methods, is sustaining this struggle, which was begun by people who wished to prevent Spain from attaining a higher standard of living and which has since been converted into a war of invasion.

Spain was a country where misery alone thrived. All our soldiers have experienced the terrible cruelty of the condition in which they were held. For the majority of them, facing death at the front is far less of a martyrdom than their former way of living. It was harder to win work in order to live than it is to win positions in a battle. The only crime of the Spanish Republic was that it wished Spain to cease being a feudal state and to attain standards of justice which other peoples enjoy. This the people of England achieved centuries ago and so did the people of France at the time of their Revolution. But even in order to achieve such a noble end we did not resort to violence. It was our enemies who resorted to violence. Unable to defeat us, they had to have recourse to other nations and preferred to sell their country rather than to tolerate the fact that it should be made more liveable. There is only one crime, if any, of which the Spanish people may be accused. Namely, that of having

waited so many centuries to put an end to their wretched condition. The people of England did not wait so long and for that reason they are to-day in the vanguard of civilization. Faithful to their traditions, the English people understand us, encourage us and, as far as possible, support us. And this encouragement, which for us is an inducement, is proof of the fact that we are fighting for justice, that we are sacrificing ourselves for the triumph of Democracy and that we are serving a desire for freedom. Our respect for these ideals is shared not only by the people of England, but by the peoples of the whole world.

(Continued on Page 6)

BORDER INCIDENT PROVES LOYALTY OF OUR SOLDIERS

On April 2 the Ministry of National Defense issued the following note:

«Three days ago the troops of a Division of the Army of the East crossed the French frontier to avoid being cut off by the enemy.

«The French authorities wished to know the attitude of each one of the soldiers with regard to the struggle which we are carrying on in Spain. In order that they should express their opinions with complete freedom the soldiers were separated from their officers.

«Without any discussion and with great enthusiasm 4,200 soldiers announced their decision to continue fighting for the Spanish Republic and declared themselves desirous of returning to rejoin the Republican Army at the earliest possible moment. Only 120 men expressed their desire to remain in France or to go to rebel territory.

«Thus, 97 per cent of more than 4,000 soldiers who, on crossing the frontier were materially exempt from any obligation to fight for the Republic, chose to continue to fulfil their duty, and only 3 per cent chose to evade this duty.»

NEWS BRIEFS OF THE WEEK

TRADE UNION DELEGATION CALLS FOR END OF EMBARGO

LONDON. — A delegation representing the General Council of Trade Unions visited Lord Halifax to demand the lifting of the embargo of arms exportation to Republican Spain.

Lord Halifax, whose pro-Hitler tendencies are well known explained to them in detail the point of view of the British Government.

WALES MINERS THREATEN GENERAL STRIKE FOR SPAIN

A number of Wales Trade Union leaders have announced that they will call a general strike of all the mines in Wales if the British Government doesn't soon abandon its policy of «non-intervention» toward the Spanish Government. The Executive Council of the Wales Federation has passed a resolution in which it declares that it is necessary to lend immediate aid to the Republican Government, so as to permit it to buy the necessary war material to defend herself and crush fascism.

BELGIAN WORKERS DEMONSTRATE TO RAISE BLOCKADE OF SPAIN

At various meetings of unemployed workers, and in the Borinage district, in the region of the center, in the metal-workers trade union at Laval, and at the coal mines of Vieille-Marriage, the workers have passed resolutions demanding the raising of the blockade against the Spanish government.

FRENCH YOUTH DEMAND OPENING OF PYRENEES

The Lay Republican Youth, the Communist Youth of the Paris Region, the Radical Youth and the Youth Sports Association have sent a joint telegram to the Premier, worded as follows:

«We strongly urge the Government to open the Pyrenees frontier within 24 hours, in order to save the Spanish Republic, Democracy, and World Peace.»

MONUMENT TO BLASCO IBAÑEZ

The Committee of Councillors and representatives from the various political and trade union organizations of the town of Burjassot (Province of Valencia), which was entrusted with erecting a monument to the Spanish novelist, Virente Blasco Ibañez, has completed its work.

It has been decided by the Burjassot municipal authorities to inaugurate the monument on April 11th.

"FASCIST HEROES"

«I was walking along the road beyond Tortosa, the refugee with his arm in an airplane splint told us, «when the fascist planes came over. I started to run toward the field, but before I could make it I felt a sharp pain in my arm, and I fell down. It hurt, not as much as now, but still it hurt. I turned my head to look — and there were three planes. Two of them were high up, one pretty low. The latter evidently saw me move, because it returned again and again to the open field where I was lying, exposed, and threw

those little grenade bombs at me. Luckily, they all landed wild, and I got only a few fragments of shrapnel. Finally I lay perfectly still, expecting every moment would be my last. That saved me. Thinking, evidently, that I was dead, the plane sped off.

«Heroic battle, that was», he ended. «A fascist plane, with machine guns and bomb grenades, against a single, unarmed man. Now I know what Mussolini means when he makes speeches about Fascism's heroes.»

WHAT WE TAKE WITH THE BAYONET WE HOLD WITH THE SPADE



Certain definite military factors have been discussed in five previous articles in 'The Volunteer for Liberty' by the present author. However, it is felt that this time, the lessons indicated in the five articles have not yet been thoroughly grasped; and it is well, at this juncture, to repeat some part of the previous articles with certain modifications.

Our recent actions have been discussed at great length by many competent comrades, but it is necessary to understand basically, from a purely military point of view, the cause of the loss of Teruel, Belchite and other territory and positions.

These losses were due to a number of factors, such as terrific enemy superiority in war material (which is now surely being overcome), etc. We want to discuss two factors here. These are not the primary factors or causes, but merely two important ones:

1. What might be called 'the human factor', that is, the factor of undeveloped commanders of units in the defensive positions before the towns of Teruel and Belchite. In order to understand why this factor is important, it is necessary to outline some important qualities necessary for the successful command of units in battle. An able commander should be able to grasp a situation rapidly, he should be able to make simple and sound tactical plans and express them concisely, he should be able to use all the information he receives, he should have knowledge of the ground on which his unit is operating, he should have a good knowledge of how to dispose his troops and to the best possible utility, he should be daring and able to do everything without rashness, and finally, he should have determination and physical fitness. Two factors which have not been stated in this list but are present by inference are that the commander must be tactically competent and have a thorough knowledge of arms and the methods of their use, and must clearly understand the basic principles of war.

Without the factors stated above or with the lack of one or two major factors among these, the commander will obviously lack confidence. The lack of confidence will lead to indecision and indeci-

sion in battle is the most criminal of offences. It is better to make a decisive although incorrect decision and this is usually, by the way, less costly from both the strategic, military and human points of view, than indecision. The indecisive commander will withdraw troops from the position which appears to him an untenable one or one which may become untenable in the future when a decisive commander would have taken definite steps in advance to so construct his defences as to make the decision inevitable that he defend until overwhelming odds forced an orderly and well organised withdrawal in successive positions. The second object lesson of this recent defeat was already contained in a previous article discussing 'The organisation of the ground', and it is believed necessary to refer again to this article to recall to the minds of the readers the fact that all modern armies, including the Red Army of the Soviet Union are tending more and more toward defence and depth. This means that a Brigade would probably have a minimum of four defence lines organised in advance with, in every case, alternative, lines of defence already prepared for occupation in the event of the necessity of a withdrawal.

Troops forced to withdraw do not break and run. They withdraw step by step from one organised position to the next, thus making the enemy fight to gain new objectives until that moment comes when the attack loses its force and breaks down in sheer inertia. At this point a well organised defence which has previously taken into consideration notes on position for the organization of the ground and preparation of counter-attacks



can resume the offensive and if properly conducted with vigor, determination and careful preparation, can deal decisive blows, compelling the enemy to withdraw to his original position if the counter-attack is properly carried forward.

There is no copy-book formula for the organisation of a position. The article referring to this subject written before was intended merely as a guide. The study of fortifications as such is our greatest need at this moment and this statement is an over-simplification of facts. We are now at the stage of training of the Spanish Republican Army in which a greater understanding of the organisation and defence of the ground, both in the attack and in defence, is possible, and if the slogan with which this article is headed is understood in its proper relation

to both attack and defence, the problem of organisation terrain will not be of so great a difficulty.

Clearly, these two factors, first that officers must be trained and know their job thoroughly and secondly, that both officers and men know in all its detail the principal elements of the organisation of terrain, with these two important points carefully borne in mind and carried out in practice, 'No pasarán', can confidently become our slogan. But in order to fulfil this slogan, the slogan 'What the soldier takes with the bayonet he holds with the spade' must be thoroughly understood and put into practice. Officers who do not understand the significance of this slogan nor its practical applications should be considered criminally negligent in their duties.

Major Allan Johnson

CANNONS AND PLANES FOR SPAIN!

Throughout the whole of France during the past two weeks there have been numerous demonstrations demanding the raising of the blockade of the Spanish Republic:

LYONS: Many thousands of Socialists, Communists, Radicals and Trade Unionists, at a meeting called by the Lyons-Valence Committee of Aid, stressed the demand for the abolition of Non-Intervention. Great enthusiasm greeted the decision to send a telegram to Leon Blum and Paul Bancourt. The slogan of the meeting was CANNONS AND PLANES FOR SPAIN!

NARBONNE: 1,500 people demonstrated. Their slogans were: OPEN THE FRONTIER! CANNONS AND PLANES FOR SPAIN!

CALAIS: Workers demonstrated for the OPENING OF THE FRONTIER.

LE HAVRE: Harbor workers demonstrated. Again, the slogan was CANNONS AND PLANES FOR SPAIN!

CANNES: 600 demonstrated for aid to Spain.

TOULOUSE: 3,000 in great demonstration.

BORDEAUX: After a meeting organized by the Peoples Front, several thousand demonstrated through the streets, demanding the OPENING OF THE FRONTIER.

LE BOURGET AIR PORT: Workers and office staff of this great air port issued a statement demanding the OPENING OF THE FRONTIER.

AUBERVILLIERS: 5,000 demonstrated at the call of the Trade Union Committee of Action.

NICE: 3,500 attend meeting in favor of Republican Spain.

BLERIOT AIRCRAFT WORKS: Workers declared that they would give up the 40-hour week and work an hour's overtime per day IF THE GOVERNMENT WILL SEND MATERIAL TO REPUBLICAN SPAIN.

CLICHY: Outside the Citroën Works the workers demonstrated and sent a delegation to Leon Blum with a resolution DEMANDING THE NON-INTERVENTION POLICY.

COGNAC: 4,000 workers de-

monstrated at the factory gates.

LA ROCHELLE: Several thousands demand aid to Spain.

VAR: 1,000 young peasants demonstrated against the blockade.

..

Throughout France the movement for aid to Spain grows in impetus and intensity, under the slogans: *Raise the Blockade, and Cannons and Planes for Spain!*

THANKS and SALUD

to the

JOHN BROWN BATTERY

for the excellent and generous support given in the call for financial aid by the VOLUNTEER FOR LIBERTY. This battery, chiefly English-speaking, though few in numbers in comparison with other English-speaking units, has responded with the sum of 1000 pesetas.



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PLAZA ALTOZANO

ALBACETE

VOL. II — No. 16

BARCELONA

APRIL 13 — 1938

BARCELONA A Transformed City

Barcelona today is a transformed city.

The holiday spirit, which once prompted a visitor in the early days of the war to compare it with Coney Island, is gone. The whole city has hitched up its pants and tightened its belt.

The fascist threat to Catalonia has awakened the people to their danger — and it has also aroused them to action.

Every day, throughout the city, groups of young men apply regularly to the recruiting stations. Every union, every political organization, has called for volunteers to join up. The slogan is:

«Stem the fascist tide, and turn their advance into a decisive defeat!»

You see posters, small leaflets in the streets. Everyone reads them. They tell you:

«Is there a soldier in your home who hasn't yet joined up? Why hasn't he?»

«Is there an able-bodied man in your factory? Why isn't he at the front?»

How many men are there on your block (neighborhood, organization, club) who can bear arms against fascism? Make them join up!»

«We want no shirkers! All able-bodied men to the front!»

Great signs are hung from house to house across the wide and the narrow streets. They ask the same questions, and point to the same answers.

In the factories, the women cry out that they too can carry arms. When told that it is for the men, they go from machine to machine, telling the men to join up, telling them what their duty is. Few men can resist their pleading — and fewer still can withstand their scorn against the shirkers.

The women, the youth, the men of all parties and trade unions, speak at lightning street meetings. They have one keynote:

«EVERY ABLE BODIED MAN TO THE DEFENSE OF HIS COUNTRY. EVERY MAN TO THE FRONT!»

And while the recruiting goes on, the factories hum, production is speeded. The same is true of all Catalonia today. As in Madrid more than a year ago, the slogan is finding its way into the hearts and marrow and bone of the Catalonian people: THEY SHALL NOT PASS!

Una mañana fría del mes de enero... Caía la nieve, cuyos finos y blanquitos copos, caaban a nuestros soldados al derretirse sobre sus hombros.

Tranquilidad... Sólo de vez en cuando se oía el lejano tronar del cañón, dirigido a las segundas líneas; o uno que otro disparo, hecho contra algún descuidado que había asomado la cabeza más de lo debido.

Silencio... El seco tableteo de una ametralladora lo interrumpe con sus carcajadas frías y sardónicas, que acompañan a las ráfagas portadoras del trágico mensaje de muerte.

Una trinchera... en un recodo, y disfrutando del pobre sol, cuyos rayos apenas si podían filtrarse a través de los densos nubarrones que cubrían la celeste bóveda, se hallan tres milicianos; cada uno tiene en sus manos el portavoz de su partido y organización.



Contesta uno; contesta otro; interpele el tercero. Del comentario pasan a la conversación animada; de ésta a la acalorada discusión.

Un socialista, un comunista y un anarquista. Tres hombres que defienden una causa, y que descuidan su misión por las diferencias de ideología. Ha llegado la discusión a un punto álgido; se han lanzado insultos, amenazas.

De pronto, en la lejanía, se oye el rónico disparo del cañón enemigo. Silba el obús estridente sobre sus cabezas, yendo a explotar a corta distancia de ellos, adornando

su ensordecedor ruido con el zumbido de la metralla, y formando un surtidor de polvo y humo.

Los tres milicianos se sacuden la tierra que les cayó encima, y que fué el único perjuicio que aquella explosión les produjo.

Se disponían a reanudar su interrumpida discusión, y quien sabe si, a causa de su ceguera, llegasen a llevar a cabo las amenazas profetizadas, cuando la voz de un soldado enemigo les hace detenerse.

«¡Rojos! — dijo la lejana voz — ¿Os ha gustado el "popinazo"?»

Luego, silencio. Los tres hombres cambiaron sus miradas entre sí. ¿Habían comprendido!

Pensaron que aquel obús no sería como objetivo determinado carnal. Iba disparando contra el enemigo unido. Aquella palabra, «Rojos», pronunciada por la voz del parapeto enemigo, les dió a entender que eran hermanos; los tres eran obreros; eran proletarios...

Sentados, interrumpido el sublime silencio que los rodeaba por los disparos que a intervalos irregulares se oían, trazaron con las puntas de sus bayonetas sobre la tenue y blanca capa de nieve que cubría el suelo de la trinchera, cada uno una letra. ¿El bello anagrama, estandar-te de nuestra lucha! ¡U. H. P.!

TWO FARMERS KILLED SAVING ALL CATTLE FOR LOYALIST SPAIN

The Ministry of Agriculture recently issued a note praising the heroic action of two employees of the General Administration of the Livestock — Francisco San José Revuelta and Manuel Iglesias.

These two men went right up to the firing line during the recent retreat on the Aragon front in order to direct the work of evacuating the livestock. After all the livestock had been safely removed, they both fell victims to fascist bullets.



One of Spain's many Loyal workers. It was men like him who performed the deed referred to in the story directly above

THE SINKING OF THE BALEARES ON MARCH 6

The Chief Command of the Republican Fleet directed the naval battle which took place in the early morning of March 6, 70 miles from Cabo Palos, from the cruiser which is symbolically named *Libertad*. Credit for this splendid Republican victory is due don Luis G. de Ubieta, the Commander of the fleet, and his General Staff.

Late Saturday night, March 5, the cruisers *Libertad* and *Méndez Núñez* and two small fleets of destroyers headed out toward sea. At 12:40, when the two cruisers and the fleet of destroyers were some 55 miles to the south east of the island of Ibiza, the watch on the *Libertad* sighted three fascist ships, at a distance of 3,000 meters, headed in the opposite direction. The direction lights of the first two boats were lighted.

The destroyer *Sánchez Barcáiztegui* launched two torpedoes. Since the ships were communicating by lighted signals, in the code of our Navy, they were obviously fascist ships. They were giving the

the order to prepare for action.

Both fleets continued on their way, and nothing more happened for a while. Then the Republican command gave the order, by telephone, to prepare for action, and every one jumped to his post.

The next order from the *Libertad* was to change direction, and the ships were arranged in formation for battle. The destroyers *Sánchez Barcáiztegui*, *Antequera*, and *Le-panto* in a straight-line formation protected the *Libertad* and the *Méndez Núñez* to port; the destroyers *Gravina* and *Lazaga* to starboard.

About two in the morning, when the Loyalist fleet was some 70 miles from Cabo Palos, the fascist ships were sighted again on the high sea, in the following order: the *Baleares*, *Canarias*, and then the *Cervera*. The engine lights of the *Baleares* gave the signal to put on speed, the intention being to cross the Republican line to port. But this skilful manoeuvre did not prove of great value, for

the rebel command committed the serious tactical error of passing our first line of destroyers, which were protecting the cruisers *Libertad* and *Méndez Núñez* on the side to port, at a distance of less than 2,000 meters. Intense artillery fire from the Republican cruisers repelled the aggression. Rockets lighted the bridges of the ships. The Republican destroyers did not break their formation.

The artillery fire ceased soon. The first torpedoes whizzed by. In loading the new shell-guns the men counted seconds and thirds of seconds. About four minutes later there was an enormous explosion. The Republican artillery was silenced by the order to stop firing. The torpedoes of the destroyers had made their hit. Following the explosion a great blaze illuminated the scene. The fascist cruiser *Almirante Cervera* could be seen near the burning ship, its silhouette cutting off some of the flames from view. The flag ship *Canarias* sailed away at full speed.

MORNING COMES...

Morning comes with another day,
And you hear the whole world say:
«I wonder what's happening in old Spain?
«I wonder if this battle is in vain?»

The world must know it's a battle for Freedom
And an end to Fascism, troublesome.
And the workers who fight with all their might
Will gain a victory for all that's right.

Lives are sacrificed for this cause
With no opportunity for to pause;
All eyes are set, sight to the Front
And guns a-roaring with a grunt.

It's a grunt of freedom these guns roar,
With a hit right into fascism's core —
Seeking for victory, not for Spain alone,
But victory for all the folks back home.

Spain must be aided in this fight
To bury fascism out of sight.
Ye workers of the world must aid
For in the future, ye will be repaid!

JIMMIE MacLEAN

"LUCKY STRIKES"

(Por Germán Hernández Antón, Jefe del Servicio de Informaciones.)

"Golpe de suerte" se llamaría si fuera traducido al castellano el nombre del tabaco americano que hasta hace poco, desconocíamos todos los trabajadores españoles, debido a que nuestros recursos económicos no nos permitían el lujo de saborear este aromático tabaco, y teníamos que conformarnos con la popular cajetilla de a real — que para nuestros pulmones en muchas ocasiones tenía peores efectos que el cloro—. Y ha sido preciso la fraternidad y solidaridad internacional —que entre los trabajadores del mundo entero despertó la sublevación de los que en España fumaban "Luquis"—, para que cesara de ser el tabaco americano o sus rivales, Camels o Habano, el tradicional tabaco de cabaret o tertulia, y pasara a ser TABACO POPULAR.

Hasta el 19 de julio, en España el tabaco, que es objeto de mi tema, sólo lo fumaban artistas prostituidas, militares de uniforme, vicio y casta; señoritos con títulos, inculotos y en fermizos, y los grandes señores de las finanzas y la política. En una palabra: sólo lo fumaba la alta aristocracia.

Si en aquella época, el "Luqui" hubiera sido un aliado del pueblo y hubiese hablado, cuántas cosas no hubiera dicho, escudriñando como escudriñaba los más escondidos recovecos del pecho de los que el 19 de julio se suicidaron al sublevarse. Qué de cosas no hubiera dicho de aquella serie de recíprocas zancadillas e intrigas hipócritamente disimuladas de las tertulias donde se reunían 50 para volcar un ministerio que sólo tenía 15 carteras. También nos hubiese hablado de los fantásticos cálculos que se haría don Alejandro Lerroux con su extraperlo; y sobre todo nos hubiera dicho los miles de españoles que pensaban asesinar los militares traidores y sus naturales aliados: clero y terratenientes. Aún más, puede que si todavía hablaban, nos dijeran lo que se trama

en la atmósfera viciada por el humo de este tabaco y del opio, los vapores del champagne y las enajenaciones de la cocaína, en algunos señoriales edificios de Burgos y Salamanca —Roma-Berlin— y fuera lo suficiente para que en nuestra retaguardia, sin tanto cacarearla, se hiciera la unidad.

Pero, si el "Luqui" hablara, no sólo nos contaría cosas siniestras, capaces de hacer mella en el optimismo de los débiles antifascistas y poner en guardia a los más fuertes, no; ya que el que en la España leal se fuma tiene la sagrada misión de proclamar muy alto de que las palabras de Marx: PROLETARIOS DE TODOS LOS PAISES UNIDOS, han sido oídas y escuchadas por todos los trabajadores del Universo: es la prueba de la fraternal solidaridad de pueblos de diferente lengua y separados por los mares, que, viendo el peligro que se cierne sobre el mundo se preparan a no ser sorprendidos como lo fuimos en España. Es comprado con la perra gorda que se cotiza cada trabajador —y que a lo mejor les cuesta el negarle el cine o una golosina a su hijo— a sabiendas de que negarle un nimo hoy es asegurarle un mañana feliz. ¡Qué transformación ha sufrido en España la misión del tabaco "Luqui"! De su triste celebridad, con nuestra guerra ha pasado a ser popular, y a través de la cortina que

BARCELONA THRILLED BY AIR DEMONSTRATION

A few of our new air squadrons flew over Barcelona on Saturday, April 9 and thrilled the population for almost an hour. Thousands, gathered in the streets, on the house-tops, balconies and from windows, cheered loudly and applauded enthusiastically. Others waved their hats or handkerchiefs in wild delight. The squadrons, consisting of heavy bombers, bi-planes, and chasers, speeded at a low altitude in perfect formation.

BRITISH YOUTH PLEDGE TO REDOUBLE EFFORTS TO GET ARMS FOR SPAIN

A resolution addressed «To the Youth of Spain» by the Tenth National Conference of the Young Communist League of Great Britain pledges «to redouble our efforts in the fight to get arms for your people.» The entire resolution, which will be acted upon at the conference on April 16, 17 and 18, follows:

This 10th National Conference of the Young Communist League sends its warmest fraternal greetings to you and through you to the youth of Spain in your heroic struggle against Fascism.

We record with regret the passing of many of your bravest sons on the battlefields of Spain.

While we deeply regret your loss, which is also ours, at the same time a deep feeling of pride wells up within us that we belong to an international association of youth that produces such heroes. We are proud to be with you in your glorious struggle to save Spain from Fascism.

We send our heartiest congratulations to you on the magnificent part you have played in building up the mighty invincible Republican Army and the unity of the whole of the Youth of Spain. We declare that this mighty army of the people, combined with the unity you have forged on the battlefields of Spain, are the guarantees that final victory for the forces of democracy over Fascism is assured.

«SAVE SPAIN — SAVE PEACE». This is the key-note of all our activity to assist your people.

We pledge ourselves to redou-

produce una bocanada de humo de este tabaco podemos ver: que en la lucha que sostenemos contra el fascismo mundial, no estamos solos: que la solidaridad internacional es un hecho; y la fraternidad universal, una realidad. En estas condiciones, con toda seguridad, con los pulmones llenos de humo de tabaco Lucky, podremos gritar: "No pasarán" "okey", ¡pasaremos!

ble our efforts in the fight to get arms for your people. To intensify our work to send food, milk and medical supplies, to strengthen still further our support for the glorious international Brigade; to work as never before to bring down the hated British National Government, friend of Fascism.

The forces of the democratic youth throughout the world are with you in your magnificent struggle.

We confidently declare that the mighty Republican Army, the backbone of which is formed by the members of the United Socialist Youth, backed up by the progressive people throughout the World will guarantee that the final victory is yours and that Spain becomes the «DEATH-BED OF FASCISM».

JOHN LITTLE ARRIVES

(Continued from page 1)

Fortunately the auto got through without mishap. But the driver was so knocked out by the ordeal that he suggested they sleep on the road that night. Everyone, outside of the driver, was in a hurry to get back — and John solved the problem by volunteering to take the wheel, which he did, bringing the party back at 4 a. m.

«The American people are not in any way losing track of what is happening here in Spain», John is firm in declaring. «On the contrary, they are working harder than they ever have worked to bring about a change in favor of the Spanish people. The American people have come to the realization that if fascism is to be defeated, the first place where it must be defeated is in its invasion of Spain.»

In France too, he believes, the growth of popular sentiment for Spain is revealed in such slogans as the French people have recently used in their countrywide demonstrations: Cannons and Planes for Spain!



LETTERS FROM HOME

**A Volunteer's Mother
Writes from the U. S.**

Dearest son — Yesterday, when I came home, there was a letter from you to S., written on Christmas Day.

Your joy over the victory of Teruel is great and inspiring — it is the kind of joy one feels when one knows what he is fighting for. Of course I realize how you must feel now after giving up Teruel and Belchite — I feel just as badly. What I do want to tell you is this:

In 1905, we were fighting in the former Russia, fighting on barricades. People were killed — and we won a constitution — and that did not last long. It all ended with massacres and reactionary punishments against those who were in the fight. But we who fought at that time knew, and were convinced, that the fight was a just one, and therefore we were not disheartened or disappointed. On the contrary we were resolved to carry on the fight to a finish... And now you see that instead of a bloody Russia (as it was under the Czar) the Soviet Union among all oppressed countries stands proud and free.

The same will be the case with the fight against fascism in Spain and the rest of the world. Chin up, my boy, and tell this to all the rest of the fighters with you!

Much love to you and your comrades.

Your loving mother,

Miniature Madrid in England

By the way, the collection for Spain you enquire about at Xmas realised 61.3.3. pounds I wish we could do it every week, but the colliery manager does not allow us to stand on his premises, and we have to get a police permit to stand in the street... All told we have collected nearly 10 Pds. It's not a record by any means, but anyway it's a nail in Franco's coffin...

Labour is really on the move here. There must have been millions of resolutions sent in by rank and file organisations to Labour Headquarters demanding some real action on behalf of loyalist Spain...

The Harworth men... had a taste of what fascism means in England... Harworth is a mining town 12 miles from here, and I went over several times during the struggle, it was like a miniature Madrid. One night the police raided a dance hall full of miners with the excuse that they were going to arrest one of the men. It was all a big bluff to cause a fight, they succeeded in separating the women from the men and then there was a battle royal. The police had reinforcements outside armed with clubs and the miners fought with the furniture, which they tore to pieces. The miners' wives went to the Cinema Hall to get reinforce-



ments for their men, but the police had locked the people inside, and of course the police won, but they had some casualties.

I went over the next day and the place was like an armed camp and the brutality of the police had been terrible. It was like the Spanish militia versus Franco's crack troops in the early days of the war.

(from a member of the Labour Party in a mining district of England).

They're with us back home.

I want you and the other boys to know that we are with you a hundred per cent, so keep up your spirit.

(from a girl-friend in New York).

The people of this country are anti-fascist all right, I'm sure. Any chance remark to people of very varied walks of life that I have made about fascism show that they hate it.

(from a mother in England).

Nazis on the screen

Last week I saw the Anti-Nazi film featured in the 'March of Time'. It was so brutal and terrifying that it left me sick, grim and determined to punch the head off of a fascist who applauded vociferously in front of me while I hissed and booed in violent counterpoint against this Italian heel. I couldn't help but provoke a challenge, which made him sneak out of the theatre so shamefully, due to the tremendous gathering of Antifascists who showed their resentment to Nazi methods by a profound silence.

(from a friend in the States).

AVION!

We sat around, resting, camped on the roadside. It was just after the food had come up, and all of us, scattered over the wide meadow and along the side of the hill, were digging furiously into our stew of rice and onions, and the almost invisible flakes of carne.

Most of us had barely swallowed our first mouthful when the whistle blew — the fascist avion was coming over. We spread out, ducked behind rocks, lay flat against the terrace-stones, stretched out under clumps of stunted pines against the steep slope of the hill. In a minute — but it seemed longer — our anti-aircraft opened up from all directions. We watched the planes in the sky, high up. Evidently they weren't after us this time. After the crack of our anti-air guns the shells whistled through the air, and after a second we saw the white puff of smoke appear where the shell burst. In a few minutes there were forty-four white puffs in the sky — we counted all of them — but the three black planes seemed to sail on serenely, untouched. We cursed the planes and the anti-air and the kitchen, which had brought the mess up at such a time.

Soon they were gone from sight, and the whistle blew again, and we dipped our tin spoons into the rice-stew again. It was cold, but tasted better than the first mouthful.

Before we were through eating the avion was up again. This time six of them, and soon we saw six more following, and then a tail-group of three. Again they passed us by, again our anti-air opened up, again they escaped. But this time we saw them shoot downward behind the nearest hill, heard their machine-guns going full-blast. Strafing the road, we thought. Only afterward we found out they were strafing the people, the streets and houses in Gandesa. They were sore; they had dropped their bombs, but had evidently miscalculated. Most of the eggs had landed in the empty football field. So they strafed the town, and its women and kids.

They came over about a dozen times that day — only twice did they strafe our meadow, our road, our side of the hill. No bombs, only their machine guns spitting. We were lucky. One casualty — our third assistant-cook got one in his shoulder. The other time, a group of us were caught on the road as they swooped low. We ducked into a culvert, and our only mishap came when a splinter of rock, chipped by their strafing, caught me at the bridge of my

nose. A speck of blood, quickly wiped away, and then I let it clot. In a few days the scab was gone, and I was congratulated: 'You're still good enough for Hollywood when you get back', a Frenchman told me. I answered with their most popular word, 'Merde!'

A hell of a way to treat men at rest, we thought. But our biggest scare came a few days later. We were marching down the road, maybe thirty kilometers from our first camping ground — those of us who were left. We were dog-tired — no rest for three days. The real fireworks had begun three nights ago.

Well, we marched, or straggled along the road, when we first heard the roar. Then they came over the hill — twenty, thirty, forty — seventy of them. We couldn't start running fast enough. Those on the left side of the road were lucky: the fields sloped down and away. On our side rose miniature dirt-and-rock cliffs, twenty feet high. 'Here's where we really get it', we thought.

Then we saw the peasant leading his mattress-laden burro. He was walking along calmly. We shouted to him to run — are you dead? are you blind? He turned his eyes upward, and continued leading his animal calmly. He smiled a little, put his opened hand to his mouth, and shouted one word:

'Nuestra!!'

We locked again. Sure enough, they were ours:

Seventy of them!!

'There's many more over there' the peasant shouted, pointing beyond the nearest hill.

We breathed a sigh of relief, all of us. If the plane motors hadn't been overhead you could have heard that great collective exhaling of breath and wondered what it was.

Our own avion had arrived!!

We reformed our ranks, and marched — not straggled — up the hot road.

W. T.

with troops disguised as volunteers, but also with a tremendous quantity of war material which increases a hundredfold the damage and injury to our independence. In the international robbery organised by fascism it is not Spain's turn to be the booty. They are attacking Spain with the same greed with which they attacked Ethiopia and later Austria. With equal savagery they will tomorrow attack other weak countries in the hope that the turn of the more powerful countries will come. Spain is merely an episode in what is being prepared, and a foretaste of what threatens the world in the future.

But Spain can cease to be an episode and can be made to represent the definite barrier which will put a stop once and for all to this criminal aggression. All the lives of Spanish democrats are subordinated to this goal. There is not a single Spaniard who will not proudly offer his life for the peace of Europe and of the whole world. Happen what may and however difficult the situation may become for us, we are determined to fight. Our responsibility obliges us to and we are encouraged in our struggle by the people of England, to whom we express our deepest gratitude.

PEOPLES FRONT THANKS BRITISH PEOPLE

(continued from Page 2)

We do not wish to say a single word regarding the difference of understanding between the people of England and their Government. On this point our respect is absolute, and it is enough for us that the difference exists. Time will tell who understood this problem with most foresight. If we are to say anything we can say, because it is permissible, that we are more interested in not disappointing the English people than in not disappointing their Government.

The people of England place their trust in our struggle and long for our victory. And we shall fight until we achieve that victory which is so indispensable for us, so advantageous for the permanent interests of England and so necessary for the peace of the world.

We are now undergoing a very grave stage in the fight for our country. Italy and Germany are attempting to defeat us in a decisive manner and have launched an unmasked attack to crush us. They are not only attacking us



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REPUBLIC READY TO MEET ALL WAR NEEDS SAYS NEGRIN IN RADIO TALK

(The following is the radio speech delivered by Dr. Juan Negrin, Prime Minister of the Spanish Republic, on April 16, 1938).

Spaniards:

The Government, in obedience to its moral doctrine not to hide the truth, however bitter it may be, addresses the country and informs it that, by a dramatic push, the invaders who are destroying our fatherland — Italians, Moor, and Germans — have succeeded in reaching the Mediterranean.

The Government is therefore going to use me as its mouthpiece to explain to the people the military situation, to analyse its causes and to indicate the duties which this situation imposes on all Spaniards.

Of the causes which have given rise to this situation, those which depend on us are being corrected with the speed and decision which the circumstances demand. Because I must not hide from the people — to do so would be unjust and therefore shameful — the part which we must play at the present stage. We have not acted in the rear with the rhythm which the situation demanded. Months, weeks, days, and hours have been lost at moments when a minute is equivalent to the destiny of years. Today when rhythm and firmness in the adoption of opportune measures have risen to the level of our desire to win the war, I can and must declare to the Spanish people that slowness has been our worst enemy.

OUR OPPONENTS KNOW THAT TIME IS AGAINST THEM

What is the situation now?
The credence with which the Spanish people receive my words entitles me to believe

that the analysis I am about to make of the position of our fronts will serve even more to strengthen the will to make our rear and our Army execute the orders they receive without vacillation.

For more than a month the enemy has been carrying out a violent offensive on the Eastern front, an offensive which has received more backing abroad than any other, an offensive characterized principally, as I pointed out in a former speech, by the haste which is weighing upon our opponents, because they know that time is against them.

In the first moments the attacks of the Italian forces and Moorish hordes, helped by German technicians and abundant German and Italian war material, broke our fronts. Had it not been for the Spanish habit of delaying every urgent task until the critical moment, the effects of the enemy attack, as far as the territory they gained is concerned, might perhaps have been less. But the fact is that these first results encouraged the enemies of Spain. A large part of the international press, with very pious intentions, began to sound the funeral march of the Republic and of the Spanish people.

THE ORDER TO RESIST

Our position was, undoubtedly, extremely grave, but the Government gave the order: resist. I appealed to the people to mobilize all their energies. And with marvellous heroism, with an enthusiasm which can be felt only in Spain, our Army resisted, barred the way of the enemy, and energetically counter-attacked in various sectors. In Catalonia, as was bound to happen, the glorious exploit of immortal Madrid was repeated. It was repeated



even in the grotesque details of the foreign press which once announced the fall of Madrid and now, that is, two weeks ago announced the entry of the Italian troops into Tortosa.

The enemy has been held back on the Tortosa front; it has been held back on the bank of the River Segre. Their aims have been frustrated precisely in those sectors where they had the greatest interest in achieving their objectives. They wanted to reach Barcelona within a space of two weeks. But on Catalan soil they have met with an unbreakable human wall. The Italian press and the press of the invaders have had to desist from their cries of triumph to the point of confessing that our soldiers, the Spanish soldiers, are defending inch by inch with extraordinary enthusiasm the beloved soil of their fatherland.

This has been possible as a result of the enthusiasm and energy with which the people have responded to the appeal of their Government. And in this space of twenty days elements have been brought together which, when they are still better employed, will permit us to overcome all difficulties and to prepare the way for our victory.

MANY OF OUR RESOURCES ARE STILL UNUSED

After being held up in their advance on Catalonia, the enemy has succeeded in attaining objectives farther south, the gravity of which must not be concealed. But they will not hold them for long. We have not yet brought into full play all our inexhaustible resources, resources which have so far enabled us to withstand the offensive and even to counter-attack in places where the enemy was most anxious to advance.

The Government is consecrating itself to this task with the greatest energy, so as to be able to use all its resources rapidly and efficiently. The situation is, in my opinion, less grave than it was two weeks. We have today more material than at the beginning of the offensive, and we shall have still more. Our Army, the Army which was able to hold up the Italian divisions and Moorish forces on Catalan soil at a moment when they considered themselves victorious, can and will be extraordinarily improved both in quality and forces.

With faith in victory, with enthusiasm and discipline, we shall free the lands which have just been taken from us by the invaders in the space of some days or weeks, and open the path of the rest of Spain to our Army, the Army of Independence.

Let all our soldiers take as a stimulus and as an example the heroic conduct of those who fought at Lerida and on the fronts of the much coveted Tortosa. All the units of our Army must be shock forces. Before them

the enemies of our fatherland shall be dawn-trodden and utterly destroyed.

THE COMPLETE AUTHORITY OF THE GOVERNMENT

In the political field the military situation imposes duties on all of us, which cannot be set aside. The Government of the Republic is the Government of all Spain and will exercise its authority, as hitherto, on all territory which is not held by the invader. Today the Government needs more support than ever; it must be obeyed with greater discipline than ever. Its voice, which is the voice of all Spaniards, must be responded to with immediate action.

All activities therefore must revolve exclusively around the Government or around the authority delegated by it. In the face of all the slanders and lies, our people are giving a magnificent example to all the people, of the world. Conscious of the role which history has allotted them, they are fulfilling it as Spaniards have always been able to fulfil it at decisive moments. Nobody has been able to hide the truth. Foreigners visiting us have been able to see for themselves that Spain has never had a Government which could count on the support of the people to such an extent as this Government can. Never was there such order in our



rear as now exists. Never did the Army display such heroism as at the present time when it is confronted by the traitors within and by the Armies of two countries which used blackmail, but whose threat is destined to fail on Spanish soil.

These qualities — self-denial, discipline, and obedience to the Government — must be further augmented. Thus equipped, we shall face the allies of the enemy in our rear, on whom our opponents are counting. Let no one be surprised by any manoeuvres they may try. The Government is one and undivided. To try to substitute or set up other bodies similar to it would only produce disturbances which would last only until the Government became aware of them.

All support, all initiative, should be directed by the political parties and organisations to the People's Front, which today includes all sectors of loyal Spain. The watchword of the People's Front must be to aid the authorities, to afford them collaboration, and to guarantee them a maximum loyalty in all their activities.

Our experiences cause us to issue a warning in advance against the possible evil of the springing up of unauthorised local or regional authorities. Our conviction that all division of authority must be opposed acquires greater force in the case of Catalonia in view of the desire to conquer, the enthu-

siasm for the fight, and the high conception of responsibility among all her authorities, from the Honorable President Luis Companys to the lowest of administrative civil servants. For this might lead to the possibility of a difference of opinion arising in political leadership. Or to put it more clearly, we do not wish a difference to arise, for the interest of the Catalans in the war, which is the war of both of Catalonia and of Spain, has made them help the Government of the Republic in its task at all times.

Let no one therefore nowhere usurp the functions of the Government. I insist on this, because a manoeuvre by our enemies to make use of the generous impulses and the desire for disinterested collaboration on the part of many people in order to misguide them would create the greatest disturbance in our rear.

REPUBLICAN SPAIN IS PREPARED FOR ALL CONTINGENCES

The Government has already taken the necessary measures to supply Republican Spain with all necessities, both from the military and civil point of view. We lack neither food supplies nor war material. We are prepared then to fulfil the watchword that I gave you before: Resist now and then attack.

MILLIONS AFFECTED BY OUR RESISTANCE

I can tell you, Spaniards, that our resistance (to us no secret) has been a revelation to the world and a source of joy to millions of men. At the same time it has caused annoyance in certain circles; it has changed the opinions of large groups of people who, either through ignorance or because of their complicity with the invaders of Spain, had already given us up for dead.

As a result of our resistance the situation has now become clear to many people. Our tragedy has penetrated the intelligence of many, and today even those whose criminal incomprehension of their own interests made them obstinately blind to our legitimate right, now understand. At last they are believing what Spain has maintained for two years: that fascist announcements of victories they had not obtained, their tales smothering the Spanish people, were nothing but a reflection of the hurry of international fascism to be done with the problem of Spain and quickly to turn its thieving activities, with less risk against those other countries which really form its principal objective. But we have shown the world of what magnificent vitality we are possessed.

Our resistance has helped and will continue to help those in many parts to see clearly that in defending Spain the Army of the Republic is defending all democracies and destroying the plans of the inter-



GIANNANTE

national aggressors, the first phase of which is unfolding in our country. No one can hide from himself the fact that the conquest of Spain by international fascism is but the first stage in a plan to attack other countries with advantage and to cause democracies to disappear totally, plunging the world into an epoch of barbaric slavery.

THE FAILURE OF NON-INTERVENTION AND ITS INTERNATIONAL ORIGINS

Looking at the international situation, I can say that if other countries had had the same faith as the Spanish people have in justice and in respecting treaties, they could have shortened our struggle. Europe would not now be looking at this spectacle of piracy on the seas, would not have tolerated the suppression of Austria, and other nations would not be threatened with strangulation.

Because of the policy of non-intervention, and believing in the right of the Spanish people to guide their own destiny, the Government of the Republic has had to organise resistance and create an Army. And this Army is prepared for the decisive days that must lead us to victory. We have only asked, and we go on asking today for that which they cannot deny us: the immediate cessation of the policy of non-intervention. Let us hope that the promoters of this false policy may think of the victims caused in these twenty-one months of international aggression; and to those insensitive to the pain of others, I present a single argument: Italian intervention has just been recognised explicitly by Great Britain. The Anglo-Italian agreement refers to the withdrawal of the Italian troops on our soil — to the shame of those who at the same time call themselves nationalists. Hitler himself proclaimed the German invasion of Spain to the world not many days ago.

At this moment the Government of the Spanish Republic most solemnly protests against the Anglo-Italian agreement. It signifies intervention in the Spanish question without taking into account the sacred interests of Spain and its people. And before the announcement of possible naval actions,

we remind the signatories of the Nyon agreements of their obligations. For we ourselves can contend with the fascist fleet; the sinking of the «Balears» off Cape Palos was proof of our efficacy and powers of attack.

THE GLORIOUS MISSION OF SPAIN TO SAVE CULTURE, CIVILIZATION AND LIBERTY

To our people, the Spanish people, history has assigned the task of saving culture, civilisation and freedom, and most of all freedom. We can say with pride that we are fulfilling that task magnificently. And we can say with equal pride that if it were not for the heroism of the Spaniards there would not be countries now discussing the miserable chaos of non-intervention, for they themselves would be given up to the task of driving the invaders from their own soil. Our resistance will not fail. On the contrary, it shall be increased. Each day it shall become more firm, more tenacious. Soon not only the volunteers, not only these called up in the levies, but the whole nation shall be in arms. And the world shall know once more how capable a people are the Spanish.

THE NEED TO MULTIPLY OUR ENERGIES A HUNDREDFOLD THAT OUR LAND SHALL ALWAYS BE OURS

Each one of our divisions must be a division that conquers; each man and woman in Spain must be an arduous fighter in the struggle for the independence of his country.

In the factories, barracks, trenches, and fields you must display your determination to resist. Your energies must be multiplied a hundred times more.

Only he who is against us can waiver at such a moment.

Spaniards: Our land shall always be ours.

Aviators, sailors, soldiers, officers, commissars, men and women of Spain.

Now more than ever defend your country with all your heart and strength.

Long live the Republic.

Long live Spain.





The VOLUNTEER FOR LIBERTY

Organ of the international brigades



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NEGRIN MAKES SPECIAL APPEAL TO SOLDIERS OF PEOPLE'S ARMY

After the reorganization of the Cabinet of the Republic, Don Juan Negrin, Premier and National Defense Minister, addressed the People's Army with the following words:

«Spanish soldiers:

On assuming the supreme command of the Air, Sea and Land forces, which are making such sacrifices in order to attain victory, I am filled with pride at being a Spaniard.

My first words must express a deep and sincere gratitude to the principal forger of our People's Army, whose name shall be indelibly written in the pages of History, and a cordial greeting to the friend, whom I have had to succeed in so difficult a task because of the need to unify and concentrate the political and military direction of war in one hand.

I address myself, in the first place, to all the officers of the Army of the Republic. To those coming from the old Army, who are the genuine representatives of the democratic traditions of the old Spanish Infantry, and who deserve the love of the fatherland for the faithfulness they have shown to it. To those who have arisen from the Militia and who incarnate the invincible will of our people to fight for its liberties. The fervent collaboration between the two is a symbol of the unity of all Spaniards in the defence of the independence of our soil.

I address the war commissars and I remind them that they must put more self-sacrifice and more enthusiasm in their work than ever before and that by ex-celling themselves everyday they will set the most eloquent example to the Army.

I address myself to the soldiers and remind them that they must not leave the posts entrusted to their defense by the Fatherland until death. The law will be inexorable with those who do not carry out this sacred mandate. At the same time rewards and honors for all combatants who are worthy of them, from the first to the last, shall not be spared.

For success in my task I count upon your obedience as soldiers to the orders of the Fatherland in danger and upon the energy

(Continued on page 4)

GENERAL MIAJA

Commander-in-Chief of the Army in non-Catalan territory



At a cabinet meeting held on April 15, General Miaja was appointed the Commander-in-Chief of Armies of the Center, Levante, Extremadura and Andalucia.

The day after his appointment, the General made a radio address to the people and to the Army, in which he announced "The Armies which from today come under my orders will continue the conduct marked by the 6th of November. We shall continue the struggle like the good Spaniards of those days. Those of us who truly love our Country will know how to defend it."

Two days later, Jesús Hernández, ex-Minister of Public Instruction, was appointed Commissar-General of the Army in non-Catalan territory. (See page 2) He will work together with General Miaja to defend against fascism that sector of Loyalist Spain now under their complete command.

HABLA LISTER

El factor decisivo es el hombre

El heroico teniente coronel Enrique Lister ha estado en Barcelona unas horas, procedente del frente, y hemos querido conocer por él el sentimiento de nuestros combatientes.

«Por el frente de Aragón, donde yo he actuado, nos atacaban cuatro Divisiones: «Flechas Negras», «Flechas Azules», «23 de Marzo» y «Littorio», que sumarian unos ochenta mil hombres, con grandes elementos de aviación, artillería y tanques. La División «Littorio» estaba compuesta totalmente por italianos, «Las Flechas» estaban mezclados italianos y alemanes, pero todos los mandos desde cabo eran totalmente italianos. Yo creo que estas Divisiones habrán tenido unas veinticinco mil bajas, les hemos capturado bastantes prisioneros, seis tanques, ametralladoras y fusiles-ametralladoras.

El enemigo hizo en sus ataques un gran alarde de material de guerra, y desde que logramos contenerlo destruyó todos los pueblos de la retaguardia alejados del frente con su aviación, pero sin lograr avances y haciendo nosotros diversos contra-ataques que les han costado muchas bajas. En uno de estos ataques les cogimos dieciocho fusiles-ametralladoras italianas marca «Breda».

La infantería enemiga es muy mala y sólo avanza sobre las ruinas después que su aviación y artillería lo han destruido todo, pero huye a la desbandada cuando se encuentra con media docena de soldados nuestros con un fusil-ametralladora.

Yo creo que la ofensiva del enemigo ha acelerado la terminación de la guerra en nuestro favor, porque ha demostrado que hay una cantidad enorme de reservas en el pueblo que no habían sido puestas en movimiento, reservas en material y en hombres.

El hecho que hayan llegado al mar no quiere decir que hayan ganado la guerra, porque nosotros tenemos dentro del mismo país la cantidad de reservas necesarias, en hombres principalmente, mientras que ellos los han de traer del extranjero, y la guerra quien la gana es el hombre y no el material.

El material puede dar una o más victorias, pero incluso para sostener el terreno conquistado después de una devastación hace falta el elemento hombre. Aun quedando cortada y dividida nuestra España en dos partes, nos quedan suficientes recursos para seguir luchando.

VICTORIA
UNIDAD
LIBERTAD

FRENTE POPULAR

BRIGADE ACCEPTS PATRONAGE OF LOCAL FEDERATION OF U. G. T.

To the comrades of the Local Federation of the U. G. T. — Barcelona.

Esteemed comrades:

We receive with great joy your letter in which you communicate your decision to assume patronage of our Brigade.

We esteem completely the value of your gesture and accept it. It is further proof of the solidarity and the unity that exists between those who fight against fascism with a rifle in the trenches and those who, with the tool in hand, fight in the labor front.

Our Brigade is the genuine representation of the Popular Front of the world. In it are Britishers, Americans, Canadians, Cubans, Argentines, Catalans, Spaniards: men of all races and colors, men of 26 nations, and among all of them there is only one thought, to destroy fascism. The unity among them is sealed by the blood sacrificed by many of our best comrades.

Our Brigade, which contributed its energies to the glorious days of the Popular Army at Jarama, Brunete, Belchite, Teruel and Segura de Baños, and which at this moment is fighting on the Aragon front, pledges that as long as a drop of blood runs in our veins we shall continue the struggle for the liberty and until complete liberation is won for the Catalan people. The day will arrive when with the unity and the POWER OF ALL we shall annihilate totally from the territory of Spain all those who want to enslave us, of those who want to deny us of our liberties which we hold so dear.

In accordance with your wishes, this letter is accompanied by a Delegation from our Brigade. These comrades represent our entire unity. They are men who have distinguished themselves in the defense of the Catalan people. They carry our affection and solidarity to those who work in our rearguard for the triumph over the invaders.

Those constituting this Delegation are comrades from many countries, such men as Mac Nash, British; Lloyd Thomas, American; Manuel Ramirez, Spanish; Bernard Wiebe, Canadian; and Rafael Romero, Political Delegate of the Brigade who heads the Delegation and represents our Commissariat.

You offer us material help. We also extend our services to you. Our Delegation bears instructions and will discuss the whole matter with you.

We invite and shall receive with all warmth a representation of your Federation to a celebration which will be held in commemoration of the advent of the Republic on April 14. In moments like these we shall be pleased to have with us a group who has taken such interest as to assume our patronage.

In hoping for your visit we send from your brothers of the 15th International Brigade to all directors and militants of the Local Federation our fraternal embraces.

Commissar of War of the 15th Brigade

(signed) JOHN GATES

JESÚS HERNÁNDEZ

Commissar-General of all Armies in the Non-Catalan Zone

Jesús Hernández Tomás was born in Espinardo, in the Province of Murcia, on February 19, 1907. He came of a very humble origin. His parents were poor agricultural workers. When Jesus was two years old the family moved to Bilbao. Four years later his father died, and the family was left with no

of 1923. His youthfulness alone saved him from being condemned to six years of imprisonment.

From that time on Hernández played an increasingly important part in the political and trade union movement. He was arrested on many occasions. In 1927 he was jailed on the charge of conspiring against the state. He remained in prison in Madrid until a few months before the fall of the dictatorship. Following his release he returned to Bilbao, where he was made the victim of a boycott imposed on him by the employers in his trade. Black listed. He was obliged to find work in another trade, and he became a house painter.

He continued to occupy important posts in his trade union. In March, 1930, on the occasion of the International Day for the unemployed, he had to flee from Bilbao. But shortly afterwards he returned.

He was made a member of the Political Bureau of the Communist Party, and later became director of the central organ of the Party, «Mundo Obrero» (The Worker's World) in Madrid. In the summer of 1934 in the Madrid Stadium, the Communist Party organized a great unity meeting with the Socialist Party. Before a huge assemblage Hernández delivered one of his most notable addresses.

In February 1936 he was elected deputy for Cordova. In September 1936 he joined the Government as Minister of Education. In the Negrín Government, formed in May, 1937, he assumed the portfolio of Health in addition to that of Education.

As Minister of Education and Health, Hernández had achieved a tremendous amount of work. He had spread education among thousands of people and had organized colonies for refugee children whom fascism has forced to flee from their homes. He had organized Workers' Institutes, Research Centers, as well as National Councils for Music and the Theatre, which have transformed these arts into real arts of the people.

Now he has been appointed Commissar-General, of the armies of the Center, Levante, Extremadura and Andalucía. The Spanish people heralds his appointment with joy and assurance that fascism will never dominate Spain.



one to support it. Life became very hard, and at the age of seven Jesus was forced to go to work. He first sold candies in the movie theatres, and then began to work as a mason's assistant.

He began to think about the problems of the working class, and he came in contact with the trade union and political movement in Bilbao. At the age of twelve he entered a carriage workshop as a painter. He was only nine or ten when he entered the Socialist Youth organization in Bilbao and in 1921 he founded the Communist Youth in the same city. At the age of fourteen he was made secretary of the Carriage Workers trade union.

Hernández obtained his education with great difficulty, for he had learned only his first letters at school. He jumped from primary school to an extremely active political life. It was a period of great political education and ferment in Bilbao. From 1921 to 1923 Hernández underwent a great deal of political persecution. At the time of Primo de Rivera's coup d'état he was clapped into prison as a result of the part he had played in the mining strike of the summer

WOMEN KEEP UP PRODUCTION AS MEN LEAVE SHOPS FOR FRONT

Señor Jiménez, Secretary of the Barcelona Federation of the U. G. T., speaking of the mobilization of trade union members, said that there is enormous enthusiasm among the workers. On April 14, the first trade union volunteers recruited as a result of the Government's appeal for more men entered Army barracks. In the atmosphere that exists in the shops, it is expected that the number of volunteers will increase each day. The trade unions provide each volunteer with a blanket and boots, as well as the regulation Army dish, knife and fork.

Everything is being done in orderly way. When the men depart, their places are taken by women. The Institute for the

Training of Women (El Instituto de Readaptación de la Mujer) cooperates with the trade unions, and furnishes specialized factory and office workers. Women are registering in the Institute for training in the most necessary branches of work with great enthusiasm.

As a result of this, production has not decreased with the departure of the men for the front. Moreover, the workers in all factories and places of work have voluntarily lengthened their hours of work. There are factories where they now work 10 and 16 hours daily. Such endeavours are made possible only by the firm resolve of all Spaniards to win the war.



THESE WOMEN SAY: "Not a man in the rear who is fit for the front." Mobilization is going on at an unprecedented pace.

ESTAS MUJERES GRITAN: "No debe quedar un solo hombre en la retaguardia que sea apto para el frente." La movilización se efectúa rapidísimamente.



QUENCHING THEIR THIRST
Calmando la sed

"FIELD OF BONFIRES"

Story of a Doctor's Escape

Doc J. D. hadn't been with us very long before we went into the last action, and after it was over many of us thought he'd never be with us again. Captured? Here's what happened, in his own words.

—We were driving along the highway to A. in the ambulance. There were about six of us in the car, including some ambulance orderlies and S., who was acting as a runner. We approached a fork in the road. A few metres past this fork there was a hill. As we came up to it we could see machine-guns being set up, facing A., and a tank, and anti-tank guns. We stopped. Comrade S. went out to see whose troops they were. Immediately we recognised them as fascists—not Spanish, they were too tall—, and too blonde. They may have been Germans. Their blue uniforms were certainly not ours. They shouted to S. "Venga aquí!"—and little S. waved his arm and said "Espera un momento, nosotros volvemos" and he hopped on to the step of the motor and shouted in to us to move on.

At the chofor, streaked down the side road, someone took out a pistol—the machine-gun bullets and anti-tank shells passed us as if we were standing still. About four hundred metres down, the road ended at a house. We drove around the house and clambered out.

Bullets were trying to turn the corners of the house. We infiltrated across the field to some hills. Here I became separated from the others. I had to rest in a small gully. After about fifteen minutes they stopped sending bullets my way, but kept on filling the house by which the car was parked with anti-tanks. About half an hour later they stopped and I heard the car being driven away. I decided to wait there till dark. Late in the afternoon I saw in the distance a file of men walking along the railroad track. I decided I would follow that course in the night.

Aided by the bright moon, that night I made my way into A. I came in by way of an alley, and I noticed that a group of soldiers looked at me curiously as I passed. I walked by without hesitating.

The town seemed to be full of revelry, but at the same time preparations were being made for the next morning. I saw light from a bar—I went into the bar. There I found clusters of young Requetés—exceedingly young. I should say 17 or 18 years old. I didn't know exactly where I was. I walked over to the owner, whom I recognised as such by the customary black corduroy trousers, and said to him "What town is this?"

He told me where I was. And casually, with my back to the groups, I asked (just to be sure) "And what troops are these?" "Fascists", he whispered.

The boys around the table were saying that our avion had given them hell today.

I stood there for a minute and then walked out, crossed the highway and walked in the shade of the olive trees. The fields were full of huge bonfires, around which lanky Moors were marching, dancing and yelling to the beat of their drums. Passing one of these groups I heard a familiar phrase—a Moor saying to a Spanish Requete "Mañana mas". The highway was filled with trucks and buses, beautiful buses, running on the road to C. I passed out of the noise and went far into the fields.

The next morning I met a campesino. I asked him where I could go. He told me to follow him, not too closely. We walked about a kilometre, and then he stopped. He pointed out a way for me. It was a difficult trail. Then when I was at the foot of a cliff I heard someone shout—"Compañero!"

At the top were two peasants. I walked up to them, and as I got to the top they said "Oh, our punishment for calling to you!" Down below was a patrol of six fascists.

They were debating which way to go when our avion appeared. They scattered, and we saw no more of them. The campesinos took me to their field house, fed me and hastened me on my way. At A. I found our forces. Was I happy!

—Glad to see you back, doc!

LA BRIGADA ACEPTA EL APADRINAMIENTO DE LA FEDERACIÓN LOCAL DE LA U. G. T.

A los camaradas de la Federación local de la U. G. T. — Barcelona

Estimados camaradas:

Recibimos con una gran alegría vuestra carta en la que nos comunicáis vuestra decisión de apadrinar nuestra Brigada.

Estimamos en todo la que vale vuestro gesto y lo aceptamos; es una prueba más de la solidaridad y de la unión que existe entre los que luchan contra el fascismo con un fusil en las trincheras y los que con la herramienta en la mano luchan en el frente de trabajo.

Nuestra Brigada es la genuina representación del Frente Popular del Mundo, en ella hay ingleses, Americanos, Canadienses, Cubanos, Argentinos, Catalanes, Españoles; hombres de todas las razas y colores, hombres de 26 naciones, en todos ellos no hay más que un solo pensamiento, destruir al fascismo; la unión entre ellos está sellada con la sangre derramada por muchos de nuestros mejores camaradas.

Nuestra Brigada, que contribuye con su esfuerzo a jornadas tan gloriosas para el Ejército Popular como Jarama, Brunete, Belchite, Teruel y Segura de Baños, y que en estos momentos lucha en el Frente de Aragón, promete que mientras en nuestras venas corra una gota de sangre, seguiremos luchando por la libertad del Pueblo Catalán, hasta su completa liberación y día llegará en que con la unión y el ESFUERZO DE TODOS, en el territorio de España aniquilaremos totalmente a los que quieren esclavizarnos, a los que quieren quitarnos las libertades que nos son tan caras.

De acuerdo con vuestros deseos, acompaña a esta carta una Delegación de esta Brigada, estos hombres llevan la representación de todos los que componemos la unidad, ellos son los hombres que más se han distinguido en la defensa del Pueblo Catalán y llevan hasta vosotros nuestro afecto, nuestra solidaridad a los que trabajáis en nuestra retaguardia por el triunfo sobre el invasor.

En esta Delegación van hombres de todos los países, hombres que como, Mac Nash, inglés; Lloyd Thomas, americano; Manuel Ramirez, español; Bernard Wiebe, canadiense, y Rafael Romero, delegado político de esta Brigada que va como Jefe de la Delegación y como representante de este Comisariado.

Nos ofrecéis vuestro apoyo material; nosotros también os lo ofrecemos, nuestra Delegación lleva instrucciones en este sentido, también os hablará y recogerá las vuestras.

Igualmente os decimos que recibiremos con todo cariño a otra representación de esa Federación que bien pudiera asistir a la fiesta que en nuestra unidad se celebrará el 14 de Abril como conmemoración del advenimiento de la República y en esos momentos de alegría para todo antifascista no debe faltar entre nosotros la representación de los que tan desinteresadamente nos apadrinan.

En espera de vuestra visita recibir todos vosotros, dirigentes y militantes de la Federación Local un fraternal abrazo de vuestros hermanos de la 15 Brigada Internacional.

por la 15 Brigada Internacional

El Comisario de Brigada

JOHN GATES

TODAS LAS UNIDADES DE LAS B. I. CELEBRAN EL ANIVERSARIO DE LA REPÚBLICA

En todos los batallones de reserva de las Brigadas Internacionales y en los batallones en línea, se ha festejado el aniversario de la República Española. En particular se ha saludado a los nuevos Reclutas y a los nuevos voluntarios que han ingresado en las Brigadas Internacionales.

En estas manifestaciones han hecho uso de la palabra Oficiales y Comisarios, así como el Comisario Inspector, Camarada Luigi Gallo. La Música de la Brigada

"Garibaldi" ha tocado los himnos Republicanos.

En todas estas reuniones se han enviado telegramas de saludo al Presidente de la República y al Presidente del Gobierno del Frente Popular.

Todos los voluntarios, antiguos y nuevos, han reafirmado una vez más su inquebrantable voluntad de luchar hasta la última gota de sangre para aplastar al fascismo y echar del suelo patrio al invasor extranjero.

ITALIANS FORCED TO VOLUNTEER SAYS PRISONER

Giovanni Frumeto, an Italian prisoner, comes from Porto-Venere, near Le Spezzie. He was a Sergeant Major of the «Flame-Throwing» Machine-Gun Section of the «Littorio» Division when he was taken prisoner on April 4th on the Gandesa-Tortosa Road.

Frumeto is 23 years old and belongs to the regular Italian Army. He does not belong to the fascist party, for members of the regular Army have the right to choose whether they wish to join the fascist party or not.

He declared that the senior officers in his barracks in Italy asked for volunteers to go and fight in Spain and made an appeal stating that Italy had recognized Franco as the only legitimate government of Spain since the Republicans were nothing but a mixture of Russians and Frenchmen who wished to convert Spain into a Soviet Republic, a thing which the Duce could not allow. The prisoner declared emphatically that when volunteers are called for any mission, men are compelled to offer themselves, otherwise they could be punished in one way or another.

Before he entered the army, Frumeto was studying to be a school teacher, but lack of economic means forced him to abandon that career and to enlist in the regular army.

In Italy fascist propaganda is being carried on against the «reds». But, since he has been a prisoner in their hands, Frumeto realizes to the full how false this propaganda really is.

An Italian newspaper entitled «Il Legionario» is published daily in Saragossa. Formerly it was published in Salamanca. It is entirely in Italian and carries on a tremendous campaign of propaganda so as to prevent the «volunteers» from being taken prisoners or from deserting to the Government lines, by telling them of the torture methods employed by the «reds».

All the Italians fighting in Spain are well aware of the Italian defeat at Guadalajara. The officers declare that the Garibal-

di Division was composed of «men of evil living».

The Italian officers have forbidden everybody to speak to the Government prisoners.

The Italian forces never fly the Franco flag and when they enter battle they produce small banners with the colors of the Ita-



lian flag. Recently this was forbidden by the officers, but the Italian «volunteers» persist in wearing them.

The prisoner confirms the existence of Italian «carabinieri» in certain Spanish fascist cities, whe-

re they do guard duty, while on the main roads there are control posts manned by Italian black-shirts. At all important railway stations there is an Italian control and there are large notices with the following inscription, «Comando Militari di stazione».

He confirms the fact that no Italian soldier can leave the Peninsula until the war is over.

The Phalangists and Reguetes are despised by the Italians because they hate one another. When they talk to the legionaries the Phalangists say that the Reguetes are traitors who want the King; and the Reguetes say that the Phalangists display a lot of uniform and a lot of pistol, but that they never to any fighting.

ASSAULT GUARDS VOLUNTEER FOR THE FRONT

In an interview recently, Señor Paulino Gomez Saiz, the Minister of the Interior, stated that 100 lieutenants, 50 captains and a number of senior officers belonging to the Assault Guards had volunteered to go to the front. The fact that their officer had been accepted, the Minister declared, was the best proof of the fact that there is perfect order in the rear.



*Jefes, Comisarios y Soldados del Ejército Popular:
Todos los españoles se esfuerzan por superarse.
Superaos también vosotros.
Ni un palmo de tierra al extranjero.
Con disciplina rígida, con capacitación concienzuda, con
heroísmo inabastible, haced de nuestro ejército el Ejército victorioso de una España independiente, libre y feliz.*

*Dr. NEGRIN, Presidente
del Consejo de Ministros.*

Ediciones del Comisariado de las Brigadas Internacionales

NEGRIN APPEALS TO PEOPLE'S ARMY

(Continued from page 1).

of your heroism for the triumph of national independence which has been endangered by the treason of the rebels and the ambitions of two foreign powers.

I have been with you at the fronts and I know you. That is why I trust that, in compliance with the commands of Spain, you will resist firmly and valiantly. **Soldiers, my confidence is complete. Through the sacrifices of today**



which you are calmly facing, one can already discern the victories of tomorrow. Just as you are, I am deeply convinced that we are going to win. There is only one way of achieving victory: by resisting. And you shall resist! In obedience not only to the voice of a man, but to the voice of our country which is sadly and angrily clamoring for freedom which has been lost in rebel territory and which is now threatened in the loyalist zone. This land which bestowed upon us modesty and pride, vice and virtue; this land to which we were bound by our fathers and to which we offer our sons; this generous land which is invincible for those who try to humiliate it; this Fatherland of ours demands its full independence, its unlimited sovereignty and the right to enjoy its freedom. It demands it from you and from me, soldier. From you and from me, who are its sons. Let the weapon, which is given to us to defend it not be surrendered until death.

Officers, commissars and soldiers of the Air, Sea and Land forces: An unbreakable order: Resist until death! One slogan: Victory. One cry: Long live Spain!

TROUBLE FOR MOOCHO PINTER

By Andy



Another alarm?
What's up with you?
¡Alarma suena!
¡De la cama fuera!



Every five minutes
we're «standing to»
Cada cinco minutos preparados
hay que estar,
en caso de alarma tal.



One of these days
I'll sleep right thru!
¡En la próxima alarmita,
me quedaré en la camita!



HIT!...
(Trouble for Moocho Pinter).
Y por hacer lo que dije,
las consecuencias maldijo.
(Desgracias de un «mucho pinta».)